

Bumper
80 PAGE issue

MAN. UNITED & DUNDEE

TEAM
GROUPS

SHOOT!

44p

27th DECEMBER, 1980
3rd JANUARY, 1981

INCORPORATING
SOCER
MONTHLY



WORLD CUP ACTION

McMenemy, Clough, Robson—
successful ‘failures’

Steve McMahon, Sammy Lee,
Mike Duxbury, Remi Moses
**SUPER STARS
OF THE 80's?**

Can you
identify the
soccer
Santa?
Answer p.2.

Full colour calendar for 1981
2 SUPER **Nikon CAMERAS**
+ 6 NEW ENGLAND
TRACK-SUITS
to be won

SHOOT'S 80 PAGE XMAS SPECIAL

AGAIN we've produced a bumper 80 page double issue to take you through Christmas and up to the beginning of the New Year.

We kick-off in a light-hearted festive mood with our Christmas presents to the stars.

Then there's a SHOOT report on the first half of the English season . . . we remember some of soccer's "Forgotten" Men . . . pay tribute to the First Division's evergreen veterans . . . relive the Highlights of 1980 . . . talk to some of Soccer's Rolling Stones, five of the season's Hat-trick Heroes, and the Wonderwomen who bring a touch of glamour to the game.

SHOOT looks at the youngsters destined to become the Super stars of the 1980's . . . welcome Malcolm Allison back to Crystal Palace . . . discover how the dreaded S.A.S. spurred Steve Archibald into action . . . and some of the game's top names reveal their New Year Resolutions.

Among the 16 pages in glorious colour are Manchester United and Dundee team groups . . . a Super soccer calendar for 1981 . . . Focus on Colin McAdam (Rangers) and Phil Neal (Liverpool) . . . stirring World Cup action . . . Arsenal's John Devine with his girlfriend the gorgeous Miss Ireland . . . and our mystery Father Christmas whose identity is revealed at the foot of the page.

There's also a full line up of star writers, all your usual favourites and the chance to win a super Nikon camera and one of Admiral's new style England track-suits.

PRICE INCREASE

That's the good news . . . now for the bad.

Unfortunately rising production costs have again forced us to increase the price of SHOOT by 3p to 25p from the January 10th — on sale December 31st — issue.

But even at 25p SHOOT will still be tremendous value for money and remain the least expensive weekly soccer magazine on the market.

Our January 10th issue will contain the first part of a full colour F.A. Cup Wallchart, a preview of the exciting Third Round ties and many other features of interest to readers of all ages.

Also there will be news of a terrific free gift no fan will want to miss!

May we at SHOOT wish all readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



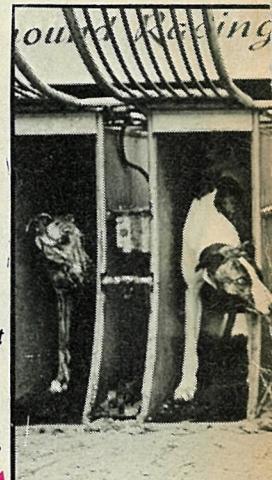
PETER STEWART

HOOLIGANISM, managerial sackings, outrageous transfer fees, plummeting club finances, misbehaviour on the pitch, and some players hell-bent, it seems, on bringing the game into disrepute have combined to make 1980 a year to forget.

How better then than to end one of the most miserable periods in soccer history on a lighter note.

SHOOT has been on a shopping spree for Christmas gifts designed to bring cheer this holiday season to some of the game's great personalities.

We present, for your amusement, a dip into the special SHOOT CHRISTMAS STOCKING .



SHOOT'S CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

TO THE STARS



JOHN NEAL

— A "Vince Hilaire" type thermal suit (main pic) to be worn by the Middlesbrough manager in his dug-out at windswept Ayresome Park.

KEITH BERTSCHIN

— A golf coaching book for the Birmingham striker (left) to teach him not to putt whilst resting on his haunches.

KEVIN KEEGAN

— A robot autographing machine to give the England captain's arm a rest.



GORDON COWANS

— An electric hare with a limp so that the Aston Villa star (above) can increase his chances of beating the greyhounds he keeps in a straight race from the traps.

ELTON JOHN

— New piano with video TV attachment to enable him (right) to watch his beloved Watford when he's travelling the world on a concert tour.

DEREK HALES

— An honesty badge for admitting before millions of TV viewers that the goal he scored for Charlton in the First Round of this season's F.A. Cup against Harlow was meant as a cross — not a shot!

RON GREENWOOD, JOCK STEIN, EION HAND, MIKE ENGLAND and BILLY BINGHAM

— Spanish phrase books to help them swot-up on the language for the 1982 World Cup Finals should the four Home countries and the Republic of Ireland qualify.

ALAN BILEY

— A signed autograph of his hero Denis Law, the soccer personality he would most like to meet, according to the Focus form he filled-in for SHOOT.

JIM SMITH

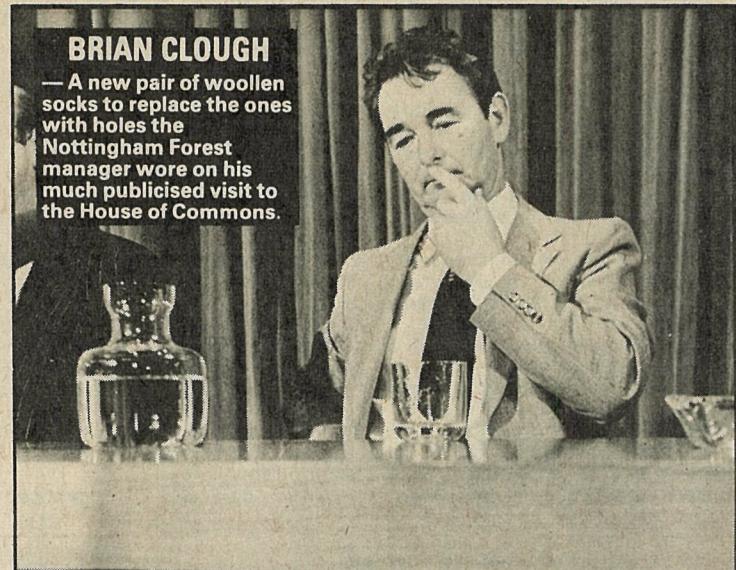
— A ball and chain for the Birmingham City manager to help him anchor his "I want away" striker Frank Worthington at St Andrews.

TOMMY DOCHERTY

— A set of wooden stocks so that all his enemies can gather together to hurl tomatoes and leave him in peace for the rest of his life.

LIAM BRADY

— A spaghetti tree for the back garden of his new home in Italy.



DENNIS MORTIMER

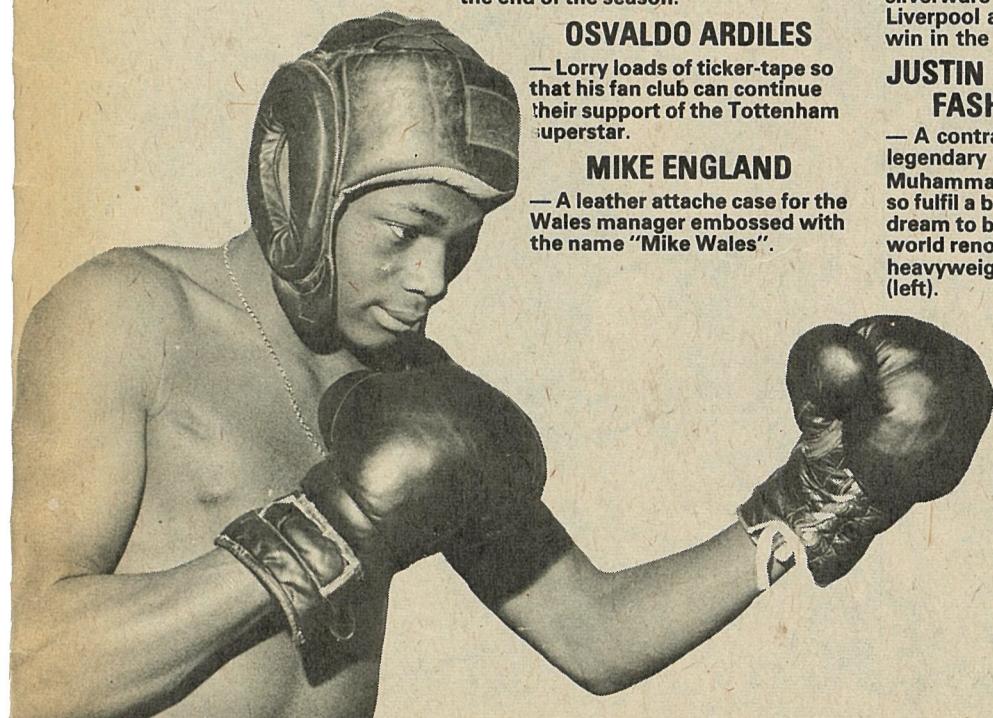
— A cut-throat razor for the Aston Villa captain to trim the beard which threatens to obscure his vision before the end of the season.

OSVALDO ARDILES

— Lorry loads of ticker-tape so that his fan club can continue their support of the Tottenham superstar.

MIKE ENGLAND

— A leather attache case for the Wales manager embossed with the name "Mike Wales".



BOB PAISLEY

— An extension of Anfield to accommodate the silverware (right) Liverpool are likely to win in the 1980's.

JUSTIN FASHANU

— A contract to fight legendary hero Muhammad Ali and so fulfil a boyhood dream to become a world renowned heavyweight boxer (left).



WILLIE JOHNSTON

— A pocket calculator so he can count to ten before getting into any more trouble with referees.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS

— Actor Dennis Waterman who plays Minder in the hit TV series. Since his goalscoring exploits, Charlie has been tightly marked and needs protection.

BERTIE AULD

— A step-ladder so that he can take Hibernian back to the Scottish Premier Division.

JIM BROWN AND ALLY WILSON

— Super glue on their gloves for these teenage goalkeepers with Premier Division Kilmarnock who between them have conceded over 35 goals.

MID-TERM REPORT

ON Saturday, November 22nd, Liverpool set up a new Football League record by being unbeaten at Anfield for 60 successive games.

Which, Liverpool being Liverpool, perhaps wasn't all that surprising after all!

Rather more so, on the same afternoon, was to see European Champions Forest losing their second home game in eight days.

Which has all been part of a somewhat topsy-turvy season.

Liverpool's record 60th scalp that day was, as they like to do things in style, Aston Villa.

For Villa, having threatened to "come good" for some time, really made it this season — and, even

welcome and much-heralded return of Kevin Keegan. But, by mid-term, he'd hardly played for Southampton — and had missed all three of England's games.

Ironically, Keegan — who rarely seemed to have much in the way of injury problems either with Liverpool or Hamburg — suffered the misfortune to run into a crop of them.

We can only hope the second half of the season provides better luck for Kev, club, and country.

Gates again dipped alarmingly — some ten per cent down even on last season at one stage — and all sorts of reasons and excuses were offered.

Ultra-defensive tactics,

there's only one answer.

When even a club like Liverpool, arguably unsurpassed in talent and expertise throughout Europe, begins to feel that pinch . . . one realises there's not much beyond football to shout about on Merseyside in the Awful 80's.

And, of course, there's another team they're shouting about up there this season.

With manager Gordon Lee's head allegedly poised on the chopping-block for so long — after all, Everton were only one place off relegation last May — it's gratifying to see his team up in touch with the leaders only a few months later.

We can only say "Good on you,



A happy Bobby Robson, manager of high-flying Ipswich Town.

-a look at the first English

after that Anfield defeat, they still found themselves handily placed near the top of the table.

For a club with as proud a tradition as any in the land — but with no League title to show for it for 70 years — table-topping must have produced a highly satisfactory, if unusual, feeling.

Even though, with his feet still firmly on the ground, manager Ron Saunders shrewdly commented: "Getting to the top isn't exactly easy — but staying up there is a darned sight more difficult." He was proved right when Liverpool took over at the halfway stage.

But, even if the bookies (and many others) still fancy Liverpool to become the first side to take the title three-in-a-row since Arsenal in the 1930s, it's still going to be Villa's best season for many years.

The season opened with the

hooliganism, too much TV soccer, and the rest.

But there was another underlying factor — particularly in the hard-pressed North, and gradually pressing Southwards through the Midlands — for which the game itself could bear no responsibility.

And that was the callous economics driving post-War, and still increasing, record numbers to the dole queue.

And, when it's a straight choice between paying the electricity bill or an afternoon on the terraces,

Gordon" for sticking to your guns, and proving all the would-be "executioners" wrong!

As ever, managers came — and managers went. But younger fans would be hard pushed to remember any Ipswich boss other than Bobby Robson.

And with a club a bit "out in the wilds" — and without over-much cash to play with — he's continued

to make Ipswich one of the most attractive sides in the land.

They've promised a lot for two or three seasons now, but usually failed to deliver the goods when the crunch came.

Perhaps this will be Ipswich's year to set the seal on what will be Robson's 12th anniversary in the job next month.

His has been a satisfying story, but one of the oddest stories really started before the season kicked-off.

Whizz-kid Clive Allen (28 League goals last season) moved from

England's Tony Woodcock in determined mood against Norway.



Q.P.R. to Arsenal on 13th June, and then — without ever playing a competitive match — on to Palace on 14th August.

With more than a cool million — in cash or in kind — changing hands each time.

Little wonder the lively, likeable lad found — through no fault of his own — life at the top all a little bewildering.

The more so when, after a few more weeks, he found himself temporarily demoted to reserve team football.

Transfers, of course, being one of the topics debated at the high-powered get-together of the '92 League club chairmen in October.

But they ducked out of the possibility of a ceiling on transfer fees, Continental style, to try and bring a spot more financial sanity into

the game.

In fact — like so many such talking-shops in soccer and other sports — the end-product looks like being considerably more talk than concrete action.

On the World Cup front, there was room for cautious, if not complacent, optimism. At Wembley, England disposed of Norway with some ease, and Switzerland rather less confidently — but found the stiffer hurdle in Rumania too much.

Nonetheless, with two to qualify, it will be a disaster if England again fail to make it from their group.

But Wales — three played; three won — must take the British honours so far, the Northern Irish, too, made a useful start — while their Republican neighbours (admit-

tedly playing more ties) headed a group which surprisingly showed last-time Finalists Holland with no points to show from their first couple of games.

But, the seemingly indestructible Liverpool apart, the European club outlook took some hefty knocks in early-season.

European Cup-holders Forest went out first time, and other contenders took quick K.O.s as well.

But all credit to "little" Newport, like West Ham, battling-on in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

As in any season — home or abroad — there have been the usual quota of shock results.

Perhaps, of all, the most noteworthy happened domestically — in our own English First Division — when Spurs went up to Nottingham and outclassed the European Champs by as wide a margin as 3-0.

Locally, while rebuilding the side, manager Keith Burkinshaw has had his critics. But he now seems to have got something worthwhile together.



Kevin Keegan, back in England with Southampton.

half of the season

Gerry Daly scores for the Republic of Ireland against Holland.



HOW THEY STOOD AT THE HALFWAY STAGE

DIVISION I

	HOME	Goals	AWAY	Goals								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Liverpool.....	21	8	3	0	27	9	2	6	2	17	17	29
Aston V.....	21	7	2	1	19	6	5	3	3	17	14	29
Ipswich.....	18	5	3	0	14	3	5	4	1	16	10	27
Arsenal.....	21	7	4	0	19	8	2	4	4	13	14	26
WBA.....	21	6	3	2	17	7	3	5	2	11	13	26
Man U.....	21	3	7	0	17	7	3	6	2	12	9	25
Everton.....	21	5	5	0	18	8	4	1	6	16	17	24
Nottm F.....	21	8	0	3	26	13	1	6	3	5	9	24
Stthmpton.....	21	7	2	2	25	15	1	3	6	10	17	21
Birmngm.....	20	5	4	2	16	10	2	3	4	11	14	21
Stoke.....	21	4	5	2	17	12	2	4	4	7	17	21
Tottenham.....	20	4	4	1	19	12	3	2	6	16	21	20
Middlesbro.....	20	6	4	1	21	9	2	0	7	9	21	20
Wolves.....	21	7	0	3	13	8	0	5	6	8	18	19
Man C.....	21	4	3	4	15	15	2	3	5	13	19	18
Coventry.....	21	5	3	2	16	15	2	1	8	7	18	18
Leeds.....	21	5	2	3	8	10	2	2	7	12	23	18
Sunderlnd.....	21	4	2	4	15	13	2	3	6	12	16	17
Norwich.....	21	4	5	2	19	15	2	0	8	7	24	17
Brighton.....	21	4	1	6	13	16	1	3	6	10	21	14
Leicester.....	21	3	2	5	10	11	2	0	9	7	25	12
Crystal P.....	21	4	1	5	19	18	0	1	10	4	25	10

DIVISION II

	HOME	Goals	AWAY	Goals								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
W Ham.....	21	10	0	1	27	7	3	5	2	9	9	31
Chelsea.....	21	5	4	2	19	8	6	3	1	19	11	29
Notts C.....	21	6	4	0	16	6	4	4	3	9	13	28
Swansea.....	20	5	2	2	16	9	3	6	2	11	9	24
Derby.....	21	4	4	2	16	14	4	4	3	14	13	24
Sheff W.....	21	9	1	0	19	5	1	3	7	8	20	24
Blackburn.....	20	7	2	1	17	5	2	3	5	8	14	23
Cam U.....	21	8	0	3	18	10	3	1	6	10	20	23
Orient.....	21	5	3	2	17	8	3	3	5	13	17	22
Bolton.....	21	6	3	2	25	12	1	3	6	10	18	20
Luton.....	21	4	4	2	16	12	3	2	6	10	14	20
Grimsby.....	21	4	5	1	7	3	1	5	5	10	17	20
Newcastle.....	20	5	3	2	10	7	2	3	5	7	20	20
Shrewsbry.....	21	5	4	2	19	11	0	5	5	3	11	19
Wrexham.....	21	3	3	4	11	14	4	2	5	8	9	19
Cardiff.....	21	6	2	3	14	10	2	1	7	9	19	19
O.P.R.....	21	5	3	2	17	6	1	3	7	10	16	18
Preston.....	21	4	4	3	14	14	1	4	5	5	16	18
Watford.....	20	7	2	2	17	10	0	1	8	7	17	17
Oldham.....	21	4	5	2	8	4	0	3	7	5	16	16
Bristol C.....	21	3	5	2	10	7	0	2	9	5	25	13
Bristol R.....	21	1	6	4	11	13	0	3	7	5	20	11

DIVISION III

	HOME Goals	AWAY Goals										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Charlton.....	23	10	0	1	23	6	3	3	16	11	35	
Barnsley.....	24	7	3	2	21	8	5	5	2	16	11	32
Chesterfield.....	23	9	1	1	22	8	4	3	5	17	13	30
Burnley.....	24	7	3	2	20	9	4	5	3	12	10	30
Huddersfld.....	24	8	3	1	19	4	3	4	5	15	13	29
Rotherham.....	24	8	4	0	21	4	2	5	5	10	16	29
Portsmouth.....	22	9	0	3	18	11	5	0	5	11	10	28
Plymouth.....	24	7	2	3	22	13	2	7	3	11	11	27
Sheff Utd.....	24	8	3	1	22	7	2	2	8	19	22	25
Exeter.....	23	5	3	1	18	14	5	2	5	18	16	25
Reading.....	22	8	1	2	23	10	2	2	7	10	21	23
Chester.....	23	7	2	3	13	8	2	3	6	4	11	23
Brentford.....	24	2	4	6	13	16	6	2	4	16	15	22
Walsall.....	24	4	5	3	26	25	3	3	6	8	14	22
Colchester.....	24	6	6	0	20	9	1	2	9	5	24	22
Newport.....	22	5	2	4	15	12	3	2	6	15	18	20
Birkpool.....	23	2	5	4	12	17	4	3	5	14	20	20
Fulham.....	24	2	6	4	9	15	3	3	6	18	20	19
Gillingham.....	24	4	5	3	13	13	1	4	7	11	24	19
Oxford.....	24	1	4	7	6	17	4	3	5	10	13	17
Carlisle.....	23	3	4	4	17	21	2	3	7	13	24	17
Bury.....	23	6	4	2	17	11	0	1	10	5	29	17
Millwall.....	23	4	2	6	13	19	1	4	6	8	19	16
Swindon.....	23	4	2	6	13	19	1	4	6	8	19	16
Hull.....	24	4	3	5	12	12	0	4	8	7	28	15

DIVISION IV

	HOME Goals	AWAY Goals																																																																																																																														
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt																																																																																																																									
Southend.....	23	11	0	0	24	1	5	2	5	10	14	34																																																																																																																				
Lincoln.....	23	8	3	1	31	7	6	2	3	11	6	33																																																																																																																				
Mansfield.....	24	8	2	2	17	6	5	1	6	12	14	29																																																																																																																				
Hartlepl.....	24	8	0	4	21	11	4	5	3	15	18	29																																																																																																																				
Aldershot.....	24	7	5	0	11	2	4	1	7	9	16	28																																																																																																																				
Peterbro.....	23	6	4	2	21	13	4	3	4	17	15	27																																																																																																																				
Bradfrd C.....	23	5	5	2	17	12	4	3	4	13	14	26																																																																																																																				
Doncastr.....	24	7	2	3	17	10	4	2	6	10	19	26																																																																																																																				
Wimbldn.....	24	7	2	3	22	9	3	1	8	16	23	Torquay.....	24	7	1	4	21	12	3	2	7	9	19	23	Crewe.....	24	4	4	4	16	14	3	5	4	15	20	23	Nthmpn.....	23	7	1	3	22	12	3	2	7	12	28	23	Trannmore.....	23	8	1	2	24	8	1	3	8	9	25	22	Darlington.....	23	5	2	4	21	15	4	2	6	12	19	22	Rochdale.....	23	6	2	3	16	11	1	1	5	14	23	Stockprt.....	23	4	4	4	15	17	4	2	5	10	14	22	Bournmth.....	24	5	4	3	12	9	3	2	7	8	17	22	York.....	23	6	2	3	18	7	1	5	6	7	22	21	Wigan.....
Torquay.....	24	7	1	4	21	12	3	2	7	9	19	23																																																																																																																				
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Darlington.....	23	5	2	4	21	15	4	2	6	12	19	22																																																																																																																				
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Stockprt.....	23	4	4	4	15	17	4	2	5	10	14	22																																																																																																																				
Bournmth.....	24	5	4	3	12	9	3	2	7	8	17	22																																																																																																																				
York.....	23	6	2	3	18	7	1	5	6	7	22	21																																																																																																																				
Wigan.....																																																																																																																																

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All you have to do is study the photo which was one of a selection that won Eamonn McCabe his Sports Photographer of the Year title for 1980 and answer the three questions. Com-

plete the coupon and paste it on a postcard (or on the back of a sealed envelope).

1. Kevin Keegan celebrates scoring for England against Scotland at Wembley on May 26th, 1979. Was it England's first, second or third goal?



2. Can you name the crestfallen Scotland goalkeeper?

3. Did Kenny Dalglish, John Wark or Joe Jordan score Scotland's consolation goal?

First prizes of EM Cameras will be awarded to the senders of the two correct entries judged to be the neatest with age considered. Remaining prizes of Camera Bags will be awarded to the next best entries in order of merit. Closing date is Friday, January 9th, 1981. The competition is open to readers in the U.K. and Eire, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., the printers of SHOOT and Nikon U.K. The Editor's decision is final. The winners will be notified and the result published later in SHOOT.

• If you are also entering the competition on page 76 both entries can be sent in the same envelope to save postage.

SHOOT/NIKON COMPETITION
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NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

AGE.....

MY ANSWERS ARE:

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....



A selection of pictures taken by Sports Photographer of the Year Eamonn McCabe, using his Nikon camera.



ACTION

C





A. A tense moment for the Leicester defence, (light shirts) against West Ham at Upton Park.

C. Clive Allen of Crystal Palace shows his delight after scoring against Middlesbrough.

B. Tottenham's Steve Archibald leaves Sammy McIlroy of Manchester United on his pants.

D. Aberdeen goalkeeper Jim Leighton dives bravely at the feet of Kenny Dalglish of Liverpool during their European Cup game this season.



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Chelsea	Liverpool	West Ham	Chelsea	Man. Utd.	Sunderland
Everton	Man Utd.	Wolves	Coventry	Middlesbro.	Tottenham
			C. Palace	Newcastle	West Brom
			Everton	Norwich	West Ham
			Gl. Rangers	Nottm For	Wolves

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SAFETY FIRST FOR TROLLOPE

770 DECLARED! No, it's not a cricket score — it's the number of League appearances John Trollope notched up for his one and only League club, Swindon Town. Beating the previous record of 764 by Portsmouth's Jimmy Dickinson, which had stood for 15 years.

And Trollope's reward for his unstinting loyalty spanning two decades? The manager's chair at his beloved County Ground. With Swindon anchored in deep trouble at the foot of the Third Division, some cynics might not think that's much reward at all.

But the man who has devoted his entire career to the homely Wiltshire club, doesn't see it that way at all.

"Obviously, I've got to be realistic and accept that we've got one hell of a fight on our hands," he admits. "We've got ourselves in such a position, that from now until the end of the season, there isn't going to be room for any more mistakes."

"And if I can't put things right, then clearly it's going to be Fourth Division football for us next season."

"But I prefer not to dwell on that for too long. I know the kind of players I've got here. They are basically the same lads who had the club riding high in Division Three last season, and were everyone's tip for promotion, until they fell away badly."

'Disappeared'

"The ability they showed last season is still there. It hasn't disappeared overnight. But their self-confidence has, and my first job is to restore that."

"It's vital that we string a couple of good results together. But to achieve that, everyone has got to be prepared to roll up their sleeves and produce what I call some good, honest endeavour."

John has officially been Swindon's youth team manager for the past two years, a post he was offered, and only finally decided to accept, after careful thought.

"I was 35 at the time," he said, "but I was still in the first team on merit, and I felt I was playing as well as ever. I was also well aware of how close I was to the appearance record, too, with my total standing at 738 at that time."

"Yet I knew the post being offered to me was a full-time job, and would mean me giving up playing, so I'd miss out at the death. But I had to look to the future, so I decided to accept."

"But the 1978-79 season hadn't been going long when the senior side had an unfortunate crop of injuries, and the boss at the time, Bobby Smith, asked if I'd fill in."



Trollope made 16 appearances that season, bringing his tally to 756. A tantalising nine short of the record.

"Last season I wasn't needed at all," John went on, "so obviously I thought my last chance of fame had disappeared completely."

But fate was to deliver yet another twist, because at the start of the current campaign, Trollope was once again called up for first team duty, and he finally made record-breaking re-appearance number 765 against Carlisle on October 18th.

But now he maintains his first team playing days are well and truly over! Then, with a wry smile, he told us: "I'm still registered, though — just in case."

"I've thoroughly enjoyed coaching the youngsters over the past two years, and I've decided to carry on, by coaching the seniors myself. So you could say I hope to be very much a track-suit manager."

"Obviously, I'm aware of the argument against moving up from being a player, to manager, at the same club. People say it's difficult to manage players you've previously been so familiar with. But that holds no fears for me. In fact, because I know the players so well, I'm also well aware of their strengths and weaknesses, and how to get the best out of them."

"I've stayed loyal to the club, that's true. But equally, they've been loyal to me. I couldn't have been treated better anywhere else."

'A YEAR OF HIGHS...

THE past year has been one of extremes for me professionally — of highs and lows, of jubilation and frustration.

At club level I've helped Liverpool, at times playing near-perfect football, win the Championship for a second season in succession to set up a record of 12 titles.

Finishing top of the table, after slogging through 42 games in all conditions, is the most satisfying achievement in domestic football. You've proved you're the best.

But once again that elusive double of Championship and F.A. Cup cruelly eluded us when we were knocked out of the Semi-Final by Arsenal after a marathon four games. There's nothing more sickening than being second-best just one step from Wembley.

Internationally, I touched the heights with England when we beat World Champions Argentina by 3-1 in a friendly at Wembley with a display that convinced us we'd reached the stage where we were capable of defeating anybody.

The high hopes we held of at least reaching the European Championship Final in Italy were smashed to bits when we failed to hit any sort of form and finished a deplorable third in a four-team group.

Losing 2-1 away later to Rumania in a World Cup qualifying game has underlined the fact that we cannot take for granted a place in the Finals of that competition in Spain '82.

Off the field, I've had nothing but

Ray Clemence
TALKING
SOCCER



**'WINNING THE
LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP
WITH LIVERPOOL'**

the recession in industry.

So I've nothing to complain about in my life outside the game.

But football is still my number one priority, and my eyes are firmly fixed on helping Liverpool and England to further glory.

Right now everything at Liverpool is geared to winning maximum

points over the Christmas period which, although not as vital as Easter, can still have an important bearing on who takes the title when the kicking stops.

In the eight-day span from December 20th to the 27th we play three League games, two in the

space of 48 hours.

The first is against Wolves at Anfield, and there are no prizes for guessing why we're extra-determined to send them away pointless.

In our first meeting, a few weeks ago, Wolves humiliated us by winning 4-1. It was our worst display of the season.

Boxing Day sees a repetition of last season's corresponding fixture when we again meet Manchester United, except this time it's at Old Trafford.

Although United have found home wins difficult so far, we know they have conceded few goals through a strong defence, and it will be difficult to break back if they should go in front.

So we'll have to be extra-tight around our goal.

The next day, we return to Anfield to play Leeds United — who are certain to be ultra-defensive in view of their lowly League placing.

Manager Allan Clarke has already given warning: "Entertainment comes second to points in Leeds' present situation."

It will need some extra-special magic to conjure up goals for us — and fortunately we have players, such as Kenny Dalglish, whose quickness of foot can deceive the eye!

Wish me luck — while I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



...AND LOWS'

"ups" in 1980, with the end of my Liverpool testimonial year leaving me with many moments to treasure. Fans gave me marvellous support at dinners, sporting functions and all sorts of get-togethers.

Once again, I'd like to give a big thank you to my testimonial committee and everyone who contributed to make my testimonial year a huge success.

Apart from co-hosting a Sunday morning show on Radio City, I succeeded in breaking into television when Granada invited me along for a regular spot after every home game.

I also helped make four half-hour documentaries with Radio City sports editor Clive Tyldesley which won the award for "Best Sports Documentary on Local Radio."

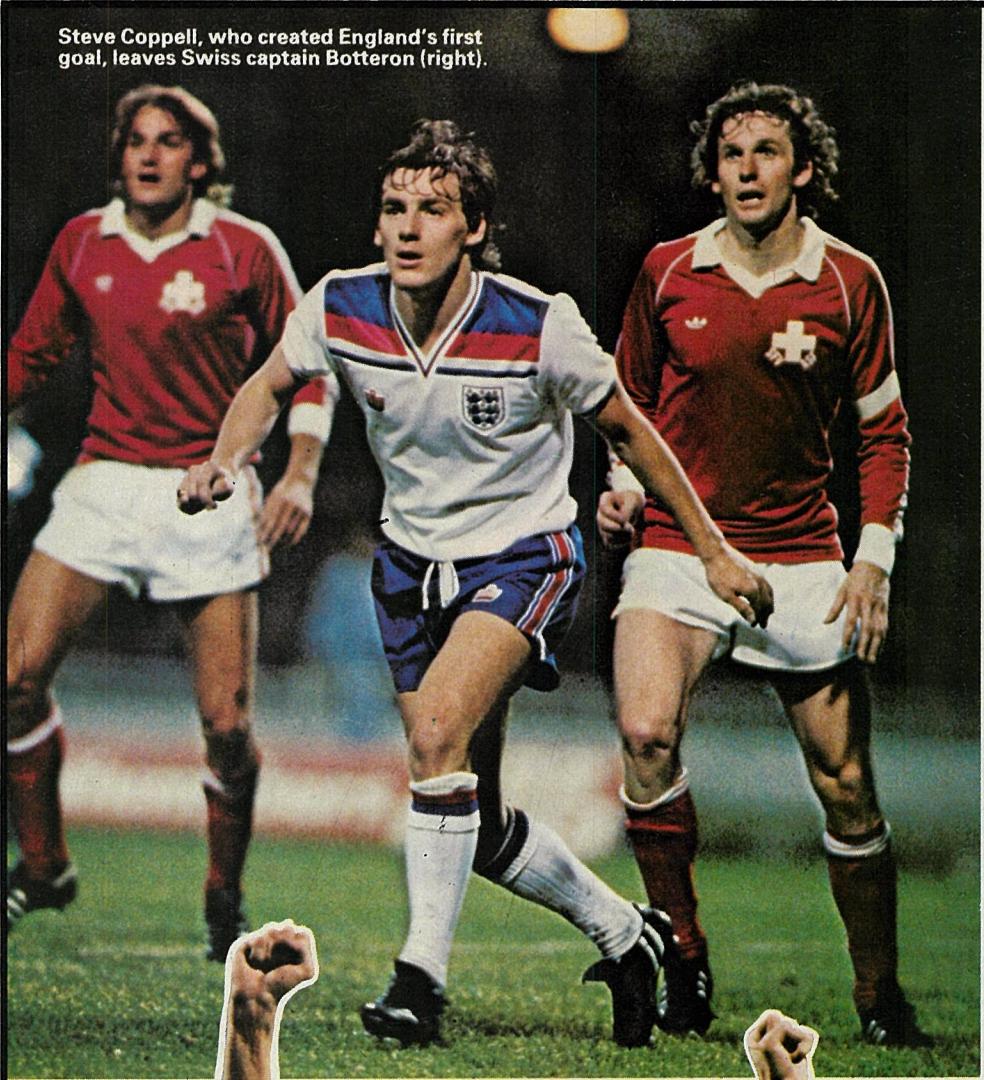
The express cargo service, which I've started in conjunction with Dougie Livermore, now helping to train the Wales players, is running well despite problems caused by



Ray Kennedy's shot rebounds off the Italian crossbar.

**'CRASHING IN THE
EUROPEAN
CHAMPIONSHIP'**

Steve Coppell, who created England's first goal, leaves Swiss captain Botteron (right).



Trevor Brooking, recalled to the midfield, makes another telling pass for England.



Paul Mariner celebrates his headed goal, which put England 2-0 up by half-time. Unfortunately, Ron Greenwood's men were unable to capitalise on their good start, and eventually had to settle for a 2-1 victory.

*England
and Wales
march on
to the 1982
World Cup
Finals*



Crystal Palace striker Ian Walsh causes problems for the Czech defence.

HERE WE COME

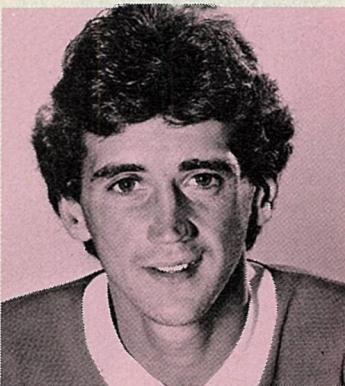


Czech keeper Hruska has been beaten by Mickey Thomas' cross, and David Giles is left free to net the only goal of the game for a famous Welsh victory.

Life in Liverpool's reserves

WHAT is life like for the players on the fringes of first team selection, unable to quite force their way into the Liverpool senior side?

In this unique look behind the scenes at Liverpool, we talk to four players who are in that position — waiting and wondering whether they can ever become stars.



RICHARD MONEY

LIVERPOOL were the only club I was prepared to join knowing I would not get regular first team football at first. It's just a privilege to be with such a club, probably the best in Europe.

I can't say how long I will wait in terms of making the breakthrough. And I'd be a fool to put a time limit on it, because David Johnson couldn't even win back his regular place a few weeks ago after he returned from injury.

I admit there was a risk about my transfer from Fulham to Liverpool in the summer. I was astounded when I heard they wanted me, even though Bob Paisley laid it on the line and told me he couldn't guarantee me first team football.

Fabulous

I have been in the senior squad a few times and was substitute in couple of games. Coming on as a substitute in my first League appearance at Liverpool was a fabulous moment.

Playing in the reserves has been difficult, especially for me, because I'd played 300 first team games before I arrived, so I wasn't like a kid just starting. I knew the difference between reserve and first team football, and it was hard to adapt to that.

They make you feel part of the set-up during the week, because first team and reserves train together. That helps those on the fringes but of course, it's different on match days.

I have played at right-back in the reserves, so I suppose I would be required to displace Phil Neal in the first team. That will be hard, but at least I'm versatile and can play in other positions. The manager is keeping his options open as to which position I'm best at — and so am I. You need all the chances you get when you're trying to win a first team place here.

But they are still the greatest club in the world, and I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.



HOWARD GAYLE

SPENT a few weeks last season with Fulham during a loan spell away from Liverpool. Lots of people asked me "Don't you want to stay and play first team football?" but all I wanted was to get back to Anfield and try for a senior spot.

I'm 22 and the time will come when I'll have to ask myself whether I'll ever achieve the breakthrough. But right now, I'm still working at it, trying for regular first team football.

Sammy Lee is the perfect example to all us reserves. He tried for six years before gaining a regular spot in the senior side. But he has made it at last.

The manager always promises that if a reserve gets his chance to go into the first team and does well enough, he will remain there on merit. Sammy has proved to us all that Mr. Paisley is sticking to that promise.

As long as players continue to make the breakthrough, then none of the reserves get down-hearted. While there is still a chance of making it at Liverpool, you don't even think about other clubs.

I'm hoping I can follow on the same lines as Sammy . . . he's a great inspiration to everyone the way he kept trying, season after season.

You just have to be patient at Liverpool because it's no good letting it get you down. Many people have been disappointed at Liverpool but you can't let your head sag . . . they'll see it, and know you don't have the right make-up.

I was substitute against Manchester City this season and came on during the game. That action whets your appetite for more so that it IS hard when you have to go back into the reserves the following week. But that is life at Anfield — tough and full of heartbreaks. You just have to keep going, through disappointments.



STEVE OGRIZOVIC

I'M in a one-off situation at Liverpool — I can only replace one player in the first team and that's Ray Clemence. And as 'Clem' has been one of the fittest, most consistent, injury-free players I've ever seen play, you can see how limited my chances have been!

I've been at Anfield for three years, and have played three first team games.

I came from Chesterfield and knew the position, but I wanted to learn about goalkeeping and be with a top club.

I was a very raw player when I left Chesterfield and felt it was the right decision at that time. Happily, I still think it was the correct move for me because I've learned so much.

Ray Clemence is a great professional who has helped by advising me, passing on tips. And I've watched and learned about players' conduct, how they react to the disappointments.

Free agent

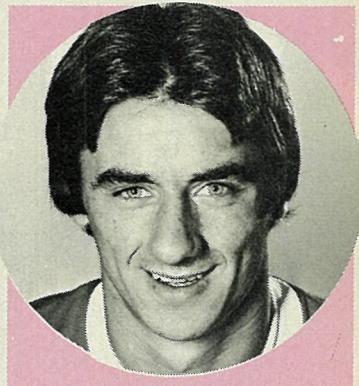
But I didn't sign a new contract this season and now I'm a free agent. I want to go now, to put into effect all the lessons I've learned here.

In some ways I'm lucky having played just a few first team games, because the previous 'keeper who was understudy to Clemence, never got a look-in. 'Clem' played 300 consecutive matches at one stage.

Anyway, I've travelled all over Europe with the club as second choice goalkeeper and that has been a marvellous experience.

In my first year, they went all the way to the European Cup Final and it was great to be involved in that, of course.

When you're a reserve, you don't wish injuries on the first choice players. People might think you do, but you don't. But the hardest part of being second choice is you must always be ready to seize your chance.



IAN RUSH

I MIGHT end up as the player with the unwanted tag — he cost £300,000 and didn't even taste champagne at the signing on ceremony!

I must admit, you would have thought I was an apprentice signing when I put pen to paper for that huge sum back in April of this year. No fuss was made at all and, if I'm honest, I'll admit I missed the headlines. But it makes you aware at a very early stage of the way they keep everyone's feet firmly on the ground at Anfield.

My target at this stage is to get a few games in the first team before the end of the season. By Liverpool standards, that would be real progress! The fact is, they're one of the best clubs in the world, so if you can play for them, you can play for anyone, anywhere. That's a comforting thought when you're spending weeks and months in the reserves, waiting for a chance.

Time is on my side, because I'm only 18. That's one of the reasons I came here — if I'd been 23 or 25, I probably wouldn't have done so. I'd admit, it gets frustrating, just being a reserve team player. But I knew that would happen when I signed, and I would do the same tomorrow if I was in a similar position.

I scored four goals in my first five reserve games, so I'm hoping the boss will keep his word. He told me I'd get my chance in the first team if I was playing well in the reserves, so I'll just have to wait my turn.

Why do we do it? Just because it's Liverpool, a great club yet so friendly and down to earth. I can't imagine I would stay in the reserves at any other club and be happy!

Gaining selection ahead of Kenny Dalglish, David Johnson and David Fairclough obviously won't be easy, but I am determined to do it.

DUNFERMLINE fans cast envious eyes southwards these days at the success being enjoyed by Aston Villa.

Where is the connection between a struggling Scottish First Division outfit and a soaring English First Division team putting pressure on Liverpool in the race for the League crown?

The answer: Allan Evans, Villa's rugged defender who has the invaluable knack of popping up with his attackers to snatch vital points pinching goals as well as controlling the middle of the defence with fellow-Fifer Ken McNaught.

Evans was spirited out of East End Park for only £25,000 — an astonishingly low fee in this day and age.

The player was allowed to leave Dunfermline simply because they needed the transfer fee so desperately, and that fact alone shows the striking dip in fortunes for the club who won the Scottish Cup in 1968 and reached the Semi-Finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup the following season.

Former player Barrie Mitchell, who also had a spell with Aberdeen, says: "It was sad to see the

club go downhill. Suddenly things went wrong and the players could see it happening.

"Jerseys we normally wouldn't even have worn in training were being patched up and used on match day. It's little things like that that you notice.

"When it was time to get a new pair of boots the players were being asked if it was absolutely necessary. We were given adhesive tape to stick them together at times.

"The standards were dropping and what was happening off the pitch was obviously affecting the players on it."

Dunfermline, under former player Harry Melrose, have tried valiantly in the past few years to rectify this dire situation, and at the start of the season the East End Park men were hoping to put in a bid for promotion.

Realistically, that is unlikely to happen. They have dropped points and it looks as though they will have to settle for a place in the middle of the League.

Melrose says: "I played for this club when it was challenging for Cups and trophies. It's difficult to lose that sort of ambition. I want

us to be right back up there again, but I realise it's all about hard work.

"They say it's tough at the top, but I can tell you it's definitely a darn sight harder at the bottom."

It's just a pity that a player of the calibre of Allan Evans isn't around to help Dunfermline in their fight.

Dunfermline's Aston Villa connection



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STOCKPORT REVIVAL

STOCKPORT County manager Jimmy McGuigan can have no grumbles with the performances of the team so far this season. But he does confess that there are times when he suffers nightmares.

"When players are injured on the pitch I think 'Many more and I am going to struggle to field a side'."

McGuigan (right), who took over at Edgeley Park last November, has only 14 players from which to select his side.

"Two of those are goalkeepers," he says. "We do run a second team, but they're all amateurs. Added to that, during the close season, the club had to dispense with coach Charlie Bell.

"We couldn't afford him, so he had to go, with the result that I do everything from a footballing point of view.

"But I've never been one for sitting on my tail in the office. I've got to be involved. I must be with the players. I get a tremendous amount of pleasure from it. It's a hobby as well as my job."

During his playing career McGuigan saw service at Sunderland, arriving at Roker as a kid from Hamilton. Then came Stockport, Crewe and Rochdale.

As a manager, he's been at Crewe, Grimsby, Chesterfield, Rotherham and now Stockport.

"When I arrived I found the club struggling," he says. "Naturally enough, they wouldn't have sent for me if they were successful.

"There was a general apathy here — and I'm talking from a playing point of view — but that's usually the product of something else, isn't it?"

'Finances'

"There was a collection of players, not a blend. To me they tried to play their football in the wrong area of the park. Gates were down and consequently finances were low.

"In fact, I had to sell players to balance the books. We struggled on to the end of the season and thankfully finished out of the bottom four with the players who were left.

"In the meantime, before the deadline, I took on Steve Uzelac from Preston and Dave Sunley from Lincoln. They were still under contract, but they were offered free.

"I signed them immediately. I also knew that, if I'd waited until the close season, then I might not have got them.

"Another addition was 19-year-old Tony Coyle — a winger from Albion Rovers.

"Because of the financial state of the club I only made one free summer signing, and that was midfielder Martin Fowler from Blackburn.

"We worked extremely hard during the pre-season training and I give full marks to the players who are here. There was a definite progressive build up.



"We played Chester in the League Cup, getting a draw there and beating them at home. From that point we went into the Second Round and played Sunderland, drawing 1-1 at home and winning 2-1 at Roker.

"It was a tremendous feeling taking Stockport to Sunderland. We certainly deserved our success over the two games.

"Even when they got a draw at our place, I felt that the Sunderland lads were under the collar. They had it all to prove.

"When we went to Roker we felt that it could go either way. We started off and it looked good. We finished up winning and I must admit they were full of praise for us — even the home supporters.

"The point I'm making is that you can go and get a one off result with a straight game, but over two it's different. It tends to convince anybody that it wasn't a fluke."

McGuigan is a manager with a flair for resurrecting clubs. At Crewe he won them their first promotion ever, and took Chesterfield and Rotherham from the Fourth to the Third.

"With a little backing I can do the same at Stockport," he says. "There's a slight revival at the present time and it can go on from there.

"If we can maintain the progress shown so far this season, then we're going to be in a reasonably healthy position at the end of the term.

"Naturally the great thing would be to gain promotion, but at the present time I don't think we're quite good enough. But naturally I'm working to improve that state of affairs and hope that early in the New Year you will see signs of a Stockport revival."



• Sheffield Wednesday's Terry Currie joined Sheffield United for a day only!

Terry played for a present day United team against the 1971 promotion United team in former United player John Flynn's testimonial game at Bramall Lane.

But Terry wasn't the only TC hero of Sheffield on display. Tony Currie, now with Q.P.R., also put in an appearance.

So the soccer fans of Sheffield had the strange sight of Curran turning out in a United shirt!

HAPPY XMAS FOR BELL

WE never let a Christmas go by without recalling one of the most remarkable scoring feats in Football League history when Robert Charles "Bunny" Bell celebrated the festive season by scoring nine goals in a single game.

If it wasn't for this one feat on Boxing Day, 1935 we would long since have forgotten this player, for he failed to make his mark when he moved into the top flight with Everton, and faded from the scene after only 14 First Division appearances.

When he performed his greatest scoring feat he was leading the Tranmere Rovers attack as a part-time professional, training in the evenings and working during the day as a shipping clerk.

On Christmas Day, 1935 Tranmere, leading Division III (North), went to Oldham and suffered their first defeat (4-1) in a run of nine games, so there was no hint of what was going to happen when these two sides met in the return game the following day.

As it was, Oldham again scored four goals, but this time Tranmere equalled the Football League record by netting 13! "Bunny" Bell scored five in the first half and four in the second, and but for the fact that he also missed a penalty he would still be in the record books as one of the League's top scorers.

However, before that season was out Joe Payne took that particular record by scoring ten for Luton Town against Bristol Rovers.

In 129 League games with Tranmere and Everton "Bunny" Bell scored 113 goals. Not bad going

HEIR to the Monaco throne, Prince Albert, was so impressed by the Scottish professional youth team which competed in an international tournament in his principality recently that he wants to bring his own side to Scotland to play in a charity game.



ESSEX and England batsman Graham Gooch has been training with West Ham to keep in shape for this winter's tour of the West Indies.

An avid Hammers fan, Graham approached manager John Lyall who was only too pleased to offer the club's facilities.

CRICKET or SOCCER? RAMAGE'S DILEMMA

ALAN RAMAGE, Derby's highly-rated central defender, is a member of a dying breed — a professional footballer who is also a top-flight cricketer.

And 22-year-old Alan — a £150,000 signing from Middlesbrough — admits that the clash of sporting interests has caused him a few headaches.

"In the end I suppose I'll have to face the fact that there is just isn't time to concentrate on both careers," says the man who combines stopping strikers for Derby with taking wickets as a fast bowler for Yorkshire.

"The trouble is I don't really want to have to make a choice between the two

because I enjoy my life as it is right now. We'll just have to wait and see what happens."

Alan is certainly under pressure from the cricket fraternity to make the summer game his first choice. Yorkshire have already renewed his contract for next season — and their England opening batsman Geoff Boycott has told him he has a much bigger future in cricket than in soccer.

England have a shortage of top fast bowlers right now, and Yorkshire cricket chiefs believe Alan could develop into a regular England Test player.

★ THINGS are finally looking up for Carlisle's goalkeeper Tony Harrison.

And it is about time the Gateshead-born goalkeeper had a change of fortune after his bad luck of recent years.

Harrison was given his break into League football by Southport four years ago, but played only 48 games for the seaside club before they left the League.

Signed by Carlisle, he broke a leg and had to wait for two years before getting into the first team because of injury to Trevor Swinburne.

• TRANMERE ROVERS' player-boss Bryan Hamilton is proud of his record of never having been sent-off in his career.

Bryan's gentlemanly on-field behaviour has had its rewards, as at the end of June, 1977, Northern Ireland-Wales clash, at Windsor Park, when World Cup Final referee Jack Taylor, in charge of his last international presented a happy Hamilton with his big-match whistle.

Trewick's complaint

JOHN TREWICK, West Bromwich Albion's utility player, is not happy with his present situation at The Hawthorns.

He said: "I only ever seem to get into the first team as an injury replacement.

"I've deputised for Brendon Batson when he had a thigh strain at the start of the season, and when Gary Owen and Bryan Robson dropped out I took their places.

"When Remi Moses couldn't play because of an ankle injury I was again called up. I would like to think that I am selected on merit, but I'm only filling injured players' boots."

NIGHT BIRDS

COLCHESTER UNITED appear to be regretting the switch from Friday night soccer to Saturday afternoons this season. The team does not respond to the more obvious lack of atmosphere and some home points have slipped away.

But manager Bobby Roberts believes his team can beat the psychological barrier: "Obviously we play better under lights when there is some atmosphere, but we have got to get used to Saturday afternoons. Last season I felt it cost us vital points when we occasionally switched to Saturdays."

FASHANU—AT HALF MAST

JUSTIN FASHANU, the exciting young Norwich striker, drew the best out of some of his own team-mates recently when Clive Woods and Greg "Thimbles" Downs came to rescue his reputation for fashion on the team bus to Stoke.

The story is that Justin, with his taste for the best in sartorial elegance, bought a new oatmeal coloured suit for the trip. A double-breasted one, at that.

He collected it from the shop shortly before the team left Carrow Road, intending to emerge at the Victoria Ground dressed like the best.

But when, to his horror, he found as he changed that it was not quite his size — and that the trousers were almost showing his knee caps! — Justin threw The Canaries into a real dither . . .

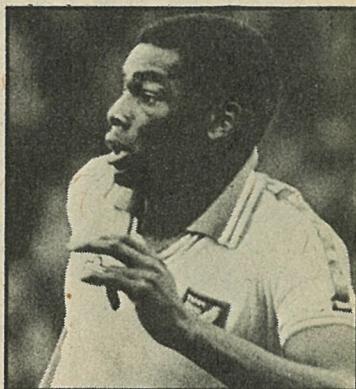
There was panic all round until Greg and Clive stepped in. Between them they lowered, restitched and pressed Justin's new trousers with professional style — and all in time for him to make his elegant entrance for the match!

Pocket Soccer

A NEW and enlarged 1981 edition of one of the most comprehensive pocket guides to Scottish Football ever published is now on sale at booksellers and newsagents throughout Scotland.

Entitled the Mackinlay's A to Z of Scottish Football, the 120-page illustrated paperback book gives full details of almost every aspect of the game in Scotland, arranged in an alphabetical encyclopaedia-style format.

Sponsored by the Whisky firm responsible for the monthly Mackinlay's Football Personality Awards, the publication gives full details of International League, and Club performances since the early years of the sport.



Briefly...

• George Berry has recently lost both his first team place at Wolves and a spot in the Welsh international side.

He said: "The easy way out would be to go in and ask for a transfer. I like Wolves and the Midlands, so I intend to regain my place in the team at Molineux."

"A spell in the reserves has done me no harm. It has helped me regain some of my old confidence."

• Hibs are bound for a trip to America if they win promotion back to the Premier Division in one season.

The plan is to spend two weeks in sunny California playing California Surfs and San Diego Sockers. They'll also meet up with their old team-mate George Best in a game against San Jose Earthquakes. When Best was transferred to San Jose for £30,000 part of the deal was a game between the two sides.

• Since the departure of Steve Archibald from Aberdeen to Spurs for £750,000 The Dons manager, Alex Ferguson, has scoured the country for a replacement. Now he has re-signed the former Aberdeen player Walker McCall from Atlanta Chiefs for £25,000, and the giant 6 foot, 6 inch striker is fitting in well at Pittodrie.

He has struck the beginnings of a goal partnership with Mark McGhee. This may not only save Ferguson a lot of worry, but also the canny Aberdeen club a great deal of money.

• Gary Stanley's career at Everton should really take off now that he has shaken off the worst effects of a long-term niggling pelvic strain.

The 26-year-old midfielder, who shares a bachelor pad on Merseyside with fellow Evertonian Gary Megson, said: "It lasted about three and a half months at the end of last season and I could still feel twinges at the beginning of this one. I'm feeling the injury less now."

'SPURS' MANAGER DESTROYED ME'

FIRST Division to Third may not sound very good news for any young player — but Newport County goalkeeper Mark Kendall is convinced that it is going to be the making of him.

"I'm glad to be away from Tottenham," says the Wales Under-21 international. "I became destroyed by a manager who seemed to blame me for everything that went wrong and a White Hart Lane crowd that didn't want to know any goalkeeper apart from Pat Jennings."

Kendall's last First Division match came earlier this season when Spurs lost 0-2 to Arsenal and he was attacked for conceding those goals

from David Price and Frank Stapleton. At the other end, Jennings played faultlessly under heavy Spurs pressure.

"Yes, I took the stick for that defeat and maybe with some reason. But, looking back on it now, there were a couple of our players not doing their job either. Anyway, when I left Tottenham my game was in tatters.

"Now all that is behind me. My confidence is back, I'm sharper, fitter and consistently half a stone lighter. I've two targets now: our European Cup-Winners' Cup Quarter-Final in the New Year and becoming the first Newport player to win a full cap since Alf Sherwood in 1957. That will show 'em!"

NEWS DESK

Compiled by BILL DAY



BILLINGHAM SYNTHONIA have been expelled from the F.A. Trophy for fielding an unregistered player in a 2-1 replay win at Goole Town. The Drybrough Northern League team could face tougher punishment when the F.A. discuss the case further.

MIDDLESBROUGH manager John Neal is not one of football's more controversial characters.

But he didn't mince words in a recent Middlesbrough programme on the subject of referees.

"There is undoubtedly room for improvement," he said. "I believe there should be closer scrutiny of the type of fellow who gets on to the Football League list.

"I would like to see what few really excellent officials we already have operating in the League given the top matches every week."



'Buy me' pleads Carl

CARL VALENTINE first played League football for Oldham Athletic, and has since enhanced that reputation threefold in Canada.

Carl is now back in this country hoping to get back into the game, but because he is now rated in the £400,000 class by Vancouver Whitecaps, nobody wants him it seems.

Valentine is at home in Manchester waiting and praying that one day the phone will ring and a First Division club will ask him to join them, but the chance appears remote at present.

"I was told that Manchester City were interested in signing me, but that was when Malcolm Allison was at the club. Now he's left and the money seems to have run out, so I'm not so optimistic, which is a pity because they would have suited me ideally."

BUSINESS BRAIN

HOW'S this for good business? Jimmy Frizzell sold Simon Stainrod from Oldham to Queens Park Rangers for £275,000 with an agreement he will receive a further £50,000 if the striker plays for England.

It represented a profit of more than £200,000 for Frizzell, who bought him for £60,000 from Sheffield United in March, 1979.

No sooner had Frizzell put down the phone on Q.P.R. than he was agreeing to buy Roger Palmer from Manchester City for a modest £70,000.

McNaught for Scotland?



Gary Shaw, Gordon Cowans, Dennis Mortimer and Jimmy Rimmer have been grabbing most of the limelight as Aston Villa battle away at the top of the First Division.

But one player who deserves as much praise is Villa's big central defender, Ken McNaught.

The former Everton player has emerged as a key member of the side with some resolute performances. Now he is being spoken of as a candidate for the Scottish team.

McNaught said: "When I joined Villa I suffered some injuries and struggled to find any consistency. Now I'm fully fit and I think this is being reflected in my general performances."

SAINTS SOCCER CAMPS



SOUTHAMPTON manager Lawrie McMenemy passes on a few tips to the lads of Springhill R.C. Middle School, which overlooks The Dell.

Lawrie takes a keen interest in coaching youngsters.

In fact Southampton organise residential summer soccer camps for boys.

The courses last five days and are under the supervision of expert coaches and Bob Higgins, the club's Youth Development Officer.

Lawrie, Kevin Keegan and other

Saints stars take an active interest in the camps.

Any SHOOT readers, boys clubs or school teams interested in going to one of Southampton's soccer training camps can get full details by writing to Lawrie McMenemy (Soccer Camps), Southampton F.C., The Dell, Milton Road, Southampton, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

Lawrie has kindly donated five free weeks at one of his camps as prizes for an exciting SHOOT competition. Watch out for details.

GILES MARK II

CARDIFF CITY's senior player has just made his League debut — at 19! At first glance that might seem to need a lot of explaining but Paul Giles explains: "I first came to the club for training as a seven year old . . . and I've counted myself as a City player for 12 years since."

At that age, Paul was following elder brother David to Ninian Park and was encouraged to join in. Now these talented brothers could be in opposition when Cardiff entertain Swansea City on December 27.

"It was always my dream to play in the same Cardiff side as David: when he left, the target became to play against him!" says Paul. The elder

Giles is now, of course, a Wales attacking player at Swansea and one of the most exciting talents in British football — but Paul could quickly make the same climb to the top.

"He has a lot of David's natural talent," says manager Richie Morgan, "and is also alert in taking up good early positions." Morgan might well have given Paul an earlier breakthrough but was concerned at his lack of physique.

Now he is tougher, more confident and steps up from reserve football with a perky goalscoring skill that is just the approach that Cardiff need to pick themselves up after some lean years.

SCOTTISH First Division strugglers Berwick Rangers, now under the management of former Celtic reserve team coach Frank Conner, were involved in an explosive match at Motherwell, where seven players were booked. Five 'Borderers' had their names taken, including debutant goalkeeper Mike McDonald.

MIKE CHANNON made his 450th League appearance for Southampton in their match against Coventry City at The Dell. Not a memorable match for Mike personally but a 1-0 win for Saints. Poor Mike missed a penalty.

NOTTS COUNTY rejected a £300,000 offer from Forest for their central defender Brian Kilcline.

Days when hot-shot marksmen were... QUICK ON THE DRAW



Malcolm
Macdonald

"IT MUST have been the quickest goal of all time — no one could possibly score any faster," says new Fulham manager Malcolm Macdonald.

Supermac is talking about the spectacular goal he scored in Scotland in August, 1972. It took him only THREE SECONDS to find the net.

He recalls: "I was playing for Newcastle in a pre-season friendly against St. Johnstone. From the kick-off, John Tudor tapped the ball to me. Normally I would have knocked it back to the wing-half, but I saw the 'keeper off his line and blasted it in."

"I went to the touchline and said to manager Joe Harvey: 'I've done my job, boss, can I go off now?'

"But I'm sure someone will equal my record. I know Joe Harvey didn't believe it possible before I did it, so I won't write off any future speed merchants."

One man who was a hair's-breadth from reaching that milestone this season was Q.P.R.'s Tommy Langley. "I equalled a League record, though," says Langley.

He scored in six seconds at home to Bolton on October 11 to go into the League record books alongside other six-second sharpshooters Albert Mundy (Aldershot 1958), Barrie Jones (Notts County 1962), and Keith Smith (Crystal Palace 1964).

Langley says: "It was so fast, it's almost a blur in my mind. The ball was hit first time by everyone involved. Tony Currie knocked it to Steve Burke, who flicked it over their centre-

half. The 'keeper thought he could get to the ball, but I nipped in and whacked it home."

"I thought: 'Crikey, I've scored already, and we've only just kicked off!'"

Another man who went into the fast scoring records but for the WRONG reason was Pat Kruse, of Torquay. He scored in six seconds, into his own net, when playing against Cambridge United in January, 1977.

Everton full-back Tommy Wright has TWICE performed an own-goal party piece in the first minute — on successive Saturdays in March, 1972.

He put one in his own net in 33 seconds against Liverpool, and a week later did it again in 32 seconds against Manchester City!

Snatched

The F.A. Cup has had its share of lightning goals, too. In the 1955 Final Jackie Milburn put Newcastle ahead in 52 seconds, and they went on to beat Manchester City 3-1.

Going back to what was only Wembley's sixth Final, Jack Roscamp was on the mark for Blackburn Rovers inside a minute in 1928. He snatched another goal later in the match and Blackburn beat Huddersfield 3-1.

But as Tommy Langley says: "The real secret of scoring quickly is luck. We've tried the six-second touch three or four times this season and got nowhere. It's a 'one-off' to be treasured by those fortunate enough to succeed. I know I'll never forget my fastest goal."

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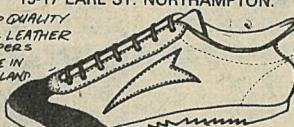
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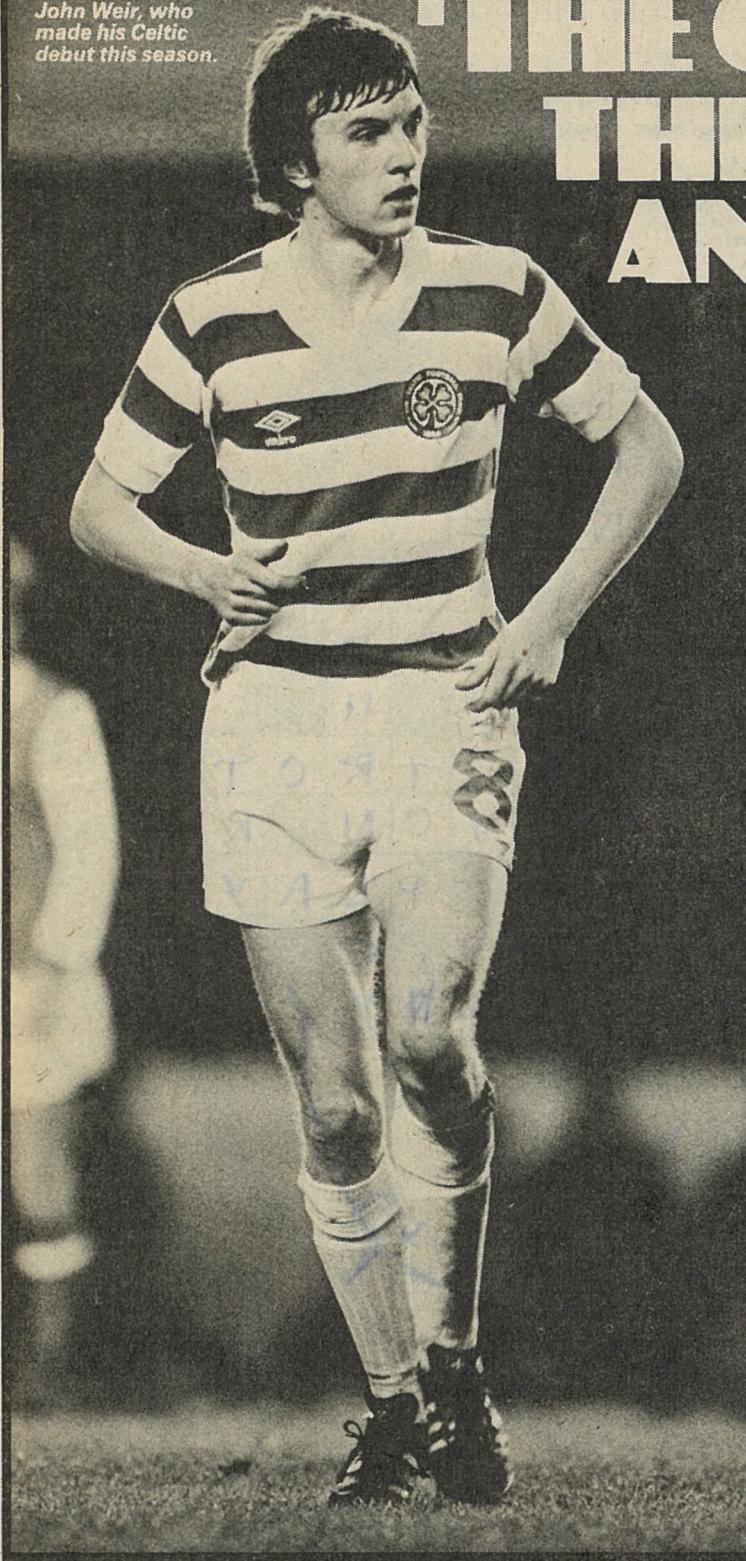
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John Weir, who made his Celtic debut this season.

'THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY'



Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



Thas been a topsy-turvy year... at least in the everyday life of D. McGrain Esq. and Celtic FC.

When it was good it was terrific, but when it was bad it made me ashamed to be associated with football. In short, you can say 1980 was the year of the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.

Let's take it in descending order... and mark my words, it sunk pretty low at times.

THE GOOD. Well, of course, there was the Scottish Cup Final win over Rangers at Hampden when I got to lift the famous old trophy on the victory rostrum. If you can forget the riot scenes that followed just for a moment, it could have been one of the great Cup Finals.

Entertainment

For once it was made into an occasion with pre-match entertainment to match anything the English Final has to offer. And for once the football itself lived up to the promise Old Firm matches always give but seldom deliver.

Then there was the emergence of so many good young players at Parkhead.

Leading the charge, of course, was Charlie Nicholas, goalscorer extraordinary, who exploded into the first team and the Scotland Under-21 side after showing touches on a summer tour to West Germany and Holland.

But he was not alone. Pat Bonnar, John Weir and Mark Reid have all made the first team and hold a great future for Celtic in their hands.

And on a more personal note, 1980 was the year I regained a regular place in the Scotland team, which in the year when another World Cup campaign began, was not a bad thing to do.

THE BAD. And that dreadful Cup-Winners' Cup First Round exit in Rumania which exploded with assistant boss John Clark being suspended and Frank McGarvey and Roddie MacDonald being

ordered off.

The feeling of losing the League when we seemed to have it all wrapped up wasn't so hot, either, although when they write the history books it will be only fair to recall that Aberdeen did to us what we did to Rangers only a year before.

I wasn't all that delighted either with the month of November when we were knocked out of the League Cup, stumbled in the League race and yours truly totted up enough penalty points to earn a two match suspension.

THE UGLY. I will never forgive the fans, no matter which team they allege to support, who were involved in those outrageous scenes after full-time in the Cup Final.

They disgraced themselves, the clubs, the occasion, football and the country. I hope I never see the like of it all again.

Never in the 100 plus years history of Scottish football have we gone through such a crisis time. The game is at the crossroads of its life and only careful thinking and sensible directions can give it the kiss of life it desperately needs.

The idiots, such as those who fought it out at Hampden, might as well stab the game in the heart. Our New Year resolution should be to stop their attempted murder.

However, on a more festive note let me wish all SHOOT fans a goal happy Christmas... except of course if your side is playing Celtic.

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE

NOBBY

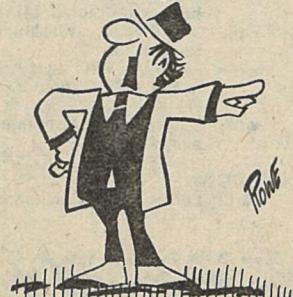
I'M ORGANISING A CHRISTMAS CONCERT... ANY VOLUNTEERS?



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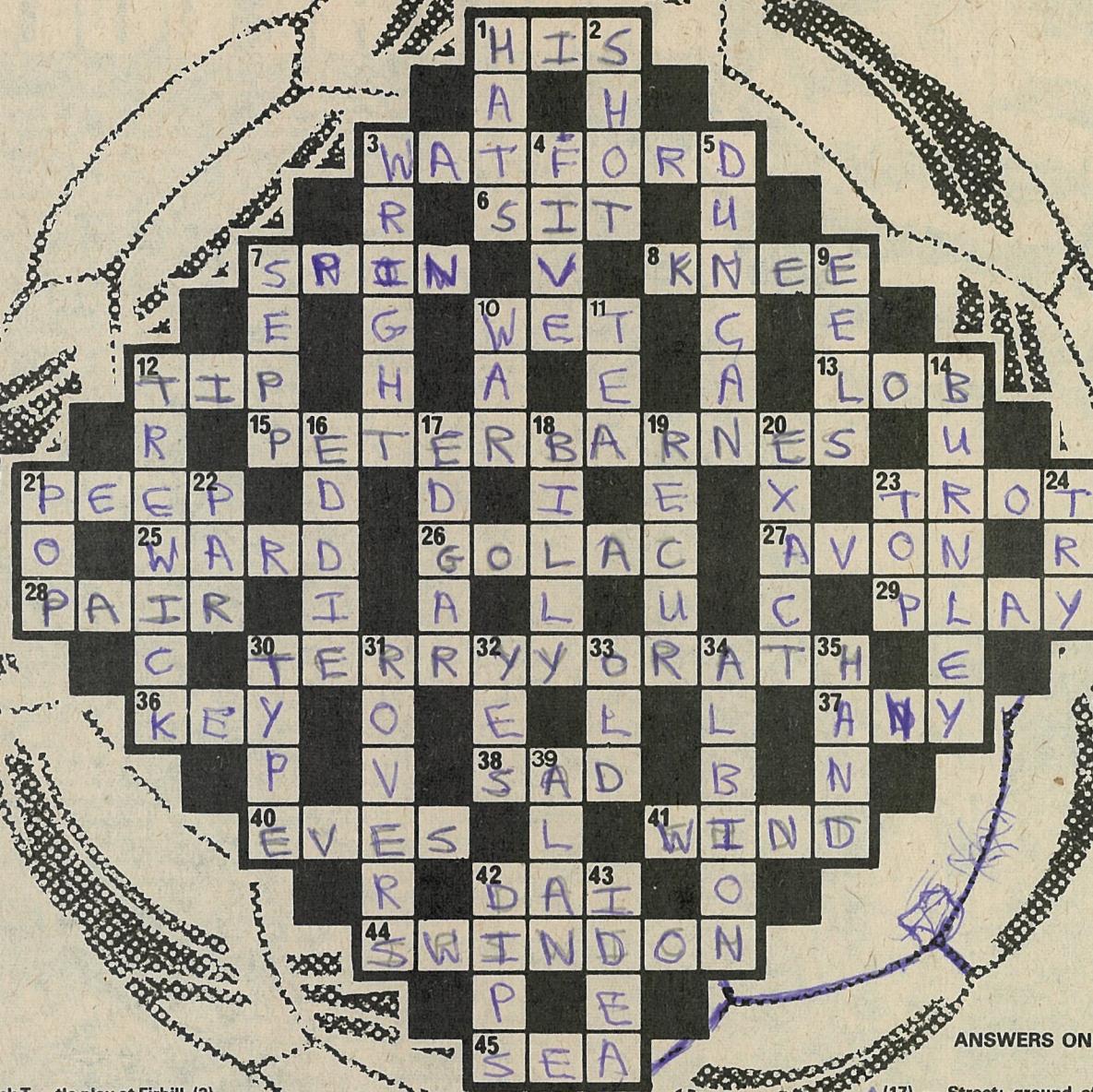
WELL GET OUT THERE AND TRY IMPERSONATING A FOOTBALLER FOR A CHANGE



THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS IS NOW WITH US!



ON THE BALL CROSSWORD



ANSWERS ON PAGE 75

ACROSS:

- (1) Partick T---tie play at Firhill. (3)
- (3) Graham Taylor is their manager. (7)
- (6) You can usually do this in the stand. (3)
- (7) This will make the ball bounce awkwardly. (4)
- (8) Joint of the leg. (4)
- (10) These conditions make the ground "heavy". (3)
- (12) Newcastle United play at St. James' -ark. (3)
- (13) Chip the ball over an opponent. (3)
- (15) W.B.A. striker born in Manchester. (5 & 6)
- (21) Quick or furtive look. (4)
- (23) Bolton are known as The ----ters. (4)
- (25) Peter —, Forest striker. (4)
- (26) Ivan —, Southampton defender. (5)
- (27) River which flows through a city with two teams in the English Second Division. (4)
- (28) Two of a kind ... like soccer boots, for example. (4)
- (29) Take part in the game. (4)

- (30) Welsh international captain. (5 & 6)
- (36) Richard —, Cambridge 'keeper. (3)
- (37) If ST. MIRRIN makes TIN; what does BARNESLEY make? (3)
- (38) How the supporters might feel after a defeat. (3)
- (40) Mel —, Wolves striker. (4)
- (41) A strong one can cause a goal-keeper problems. (4)
- (42) — Davies, Wrexham goal-keeper. (3)
- (44) — Town. Who beat Arsenal 3-1 in the 1968/9 League Cup Final. (7)
- (45) Blackpool are known as The ---siders. (3)

DOWN:

- (1) Luton Town's nickname is The ---ter-. (4)
- (2) An attempt to score. (4)
- (3) See 18. (6)
- (4) How many teams in the English Football League begin with the letter "H"? (4)
- (5) Arthur —, Hibernian player (capped by Scotland in 1975). (6)
- (7) — Maier; former West German international goalkeeper. (4)
- (9) Use the initial letters of Luton, Everton, Stoke and Exeter to make "fish". (4)
- (10) Phil ---man of Charlton. (3)
- (11) Kevin Keelan now plays for the New England — Men. (3)
- (12) John —, West Bromwich Albion defender. (7)
- (14) English Division Three club from Turf Moor. (7)
- (16) Gray, Leeds United star player. (5)
- (17) — Street; ground of Hereford United. (5)
- (18) & 3 down) Wolves player who retired in 1959 having been capped 105 times by England. (5)
- (19) Happen again. (5)
- (20) Precise and accurate. (5)
- (21) Nickname of Bryan Robson of Sunderland. (3)
- (22) Steve ---sons, Orient midfield player. (3)
- (23) Number one position; as in a League table. (3)
- (24) Attempt. (3)
- (30) Distinguishing class or group. (4)
- (31) See 34. (6)
- (32) A-r-some Park, ground of Middlesbrough. (3)
- (33) First word of the name of Manchester United's ground. (3)
- (34 & 31) Scottish Second Division club from Cliftonhill Park. (6)
- (35) Eion —, Eire team manager. (4)
- (39) — Kennedy, Liverpool defender. (4)
- (42) Slopes downward. (4)
- (43) Notion. (4)

If football followers believe that playing soccer professionally is all glamour, they should consider the plight of some household names who, through no fault of theirs, have been cast into obscurity this season.

England's injured stars Trevor Francis and Ray Wilkins have been sidelined for months but at least their careers will continue. Others are not so fortunate.

It was only in May that Sammy Nelson was hogging our television screens appearing for Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Semi-Final marathon with Liverpool, then the Final at Wembley against West Ham United, and also the European Cup-Winners' Cup Final against Valencia.

Yet Sammy has been cast into the shadows this season because of the arrival of Britain's costliest full-back Kenny Sansom.

Another full-back whose appearances are few and far between these days is ex-England man Mike Pejic, who has had to give way to youngsters like Gary Williams, Colin Gibson and Eamonn Deacy, at Aston Villa.

Pejic was capped four times in 1974 during his days with Stoke City, but since his move from Everton to Villa Park, has been limited to less than a dozen games.

Also at Villa is an England international striker who, when he first played at Wembley, was hailed as the answer to all Don Revie's problems.

But these days Brian Little can't get a game in the First Division, purely because of the success of young Gary Shaw alongside Peter Withe.

Last year Little was all set to sign for Birmingham City, but after a medical, had to stay put. Now it appears his days in claret and blue may be almost over.

A forgotten man at Birmingham City — and yet another inter-

national — is Tony Towers.

It's four years since the bushy-haired Towers played for his country. He was with Sunderland then, and what a good player he looked.

Now at St Andrews he kicks his heels week in and week out, unable to oust youngsters like Kevan Broadhurst or Mark Dennis,

Brian Little
(Aston Villa)

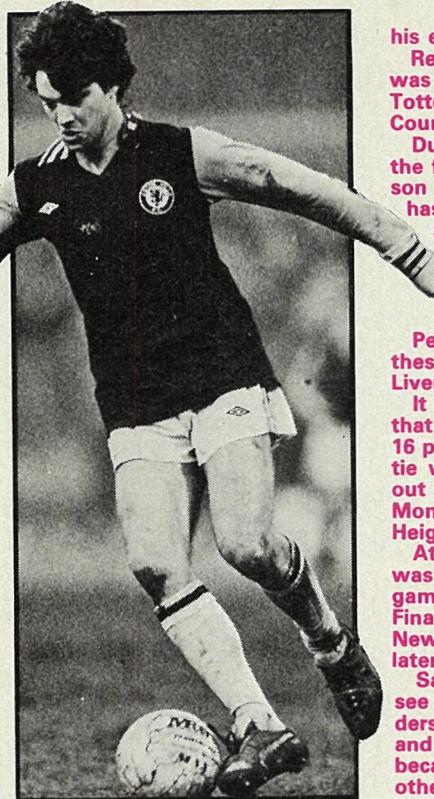
older campaigners like Colin Todd, Malcolm Page, Joe Gallagher or David Langan.

At this time last year one of the most romantic stories of the season evolved when Brighton resurrected the career of Blackpool's defender Peter Suddaby.

After over 350 appearances for Blackpool, Suddaby appeared to be on the scrapheap, until Alan Mullery stepped in and offered him a new lease of life.

Suddaby accepted the chance with both hands and played a large part in keeping Brighton in the First Division, but now he is back playing reserve team football.

Two equally experienced players who have known better times are Mick Ferguson and Jim Holton of



his entire future is in jeopardy.

Remember John Duncan? He was the Scottish striker who left Tottenham Hotspur for Derby County for a sizeable fee.

Duncan scored seven goals in the first three months of last season in the First Division, but he hasn't played since the last Saturday in 1979.

Perhaps the most famous of all these forgotten football players is Liverpool's Steve Heighway.

It seemed almost unbelievable that Liverpool were able to name 16 players for their European Cup tie with Aberdeen and still leave out men of the quality of Richard Money, Howard Gayle and Heighway.

At the height of his career Steve was the best wing player in the game. He scored in two F.A. Cup Finals, against Arsenal in 1971, and Newcastle United three years later.

Sadly because no one likes to see such a talent evaporate, defenders got to know Steve's strengths and weaknesses, his forays became less potent, and with other players arriving at Anfield, Heighway found his first team outings very limited.

Manchester United also possess a flank player who used to play regularly for his country, but sadly now is thought of purely as a squad member.

Chris McGrath made a fine start to his professional career with Tottenham Hotspur, and looked a genuine talent who could only improve.

Central League

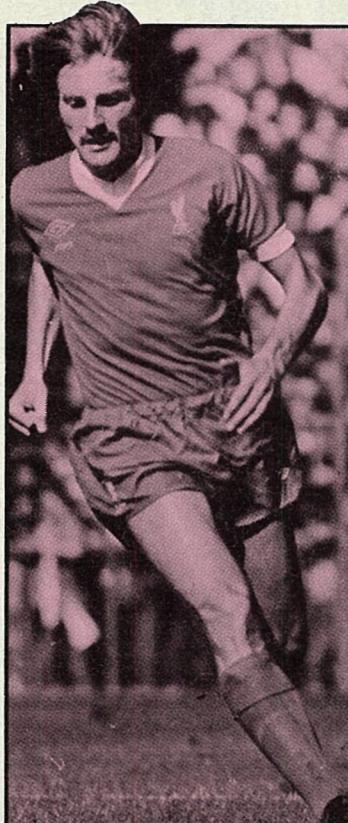
Somehow, though, his abilities never matured, and after a series of disappointments he has to content himself with Central League football at Old Trafford.

At Newcastle United they have a midfield player who was as quick as anyone in the country a few years back.

Colin Suggett scored some spectacular goals for Sunderland, West Bromwich Albion and Norwich City, but he has never found the target for Newcastle, nor is he likely to these days when he is basically used to boost the reserve side with his experience.

Nottingham Forest's John O'Hare, who also played for Sunderland — and for Scotland — has gradually, it appears, been phased out of Brian Clough's first team squad, yet don't forget that O'Hare actually played in Forest's European Cup winning side in Madrid in May.

There are others who have been lost to the memory for unfortunate reasons, like Sammy Irvine of Stoke, who had an horrific car crash and is still not fully recovered and Jeff Clarke who got a k.o. blow on Sunderland's pre-season tour, and hasn't been able to take his place since.



Coventry City. The tall, bearded striker, so much fancied by Brian Clough, has suffered from injuries and the loss of his old striking partner Ian Wallace to Forest, while former Scottish international centre-half Holton has had to play second fiddle to Paul Dyson since losing his place last December.

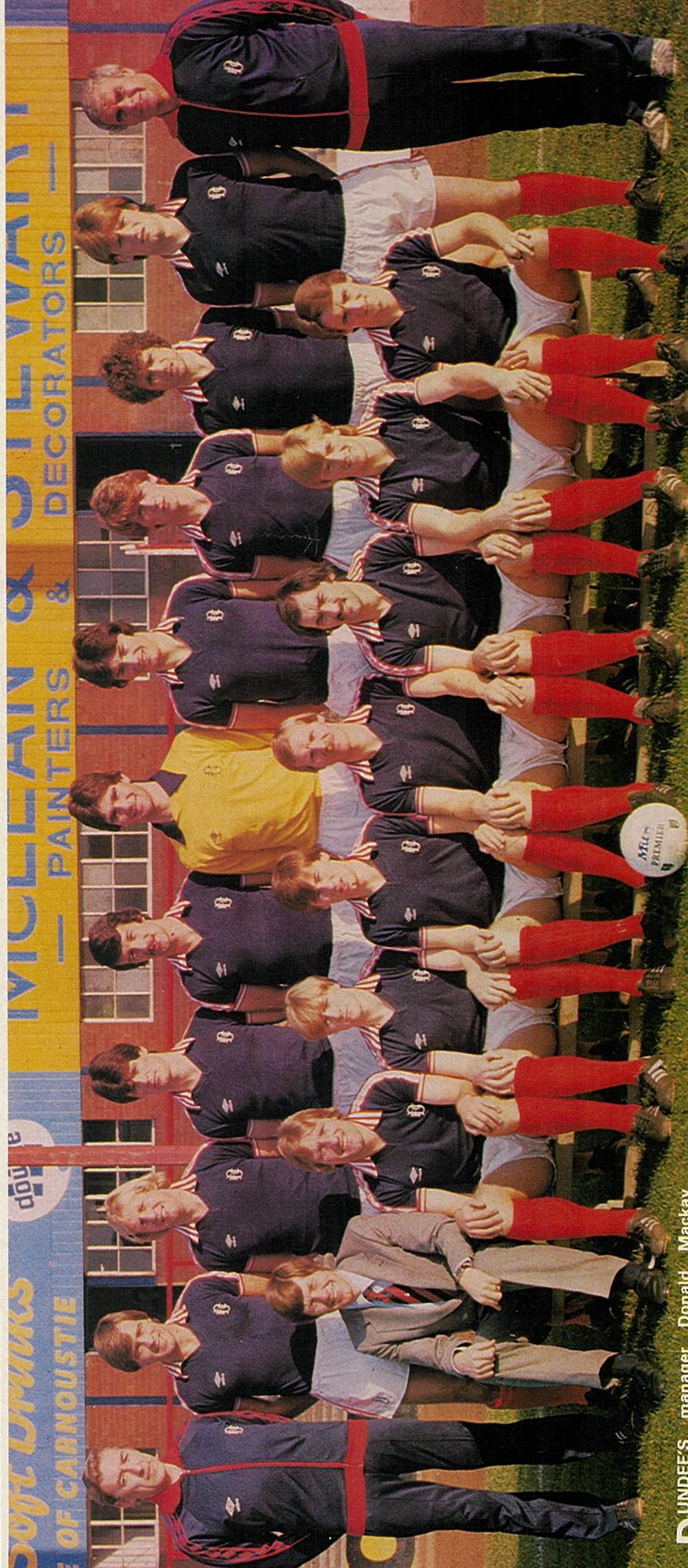
Goalkeepers, of course, are more likely to be forgotten than outfield players simply because there is only one position in a side for them to play for and now John Burridge at Crystal Palace must be wondering if he's going to become a forgotten man of football.

Burridge was replaced by Paul Barron at the start of the season, as part of that amazing triangular transfer which took Kenny Sansom from Palace to Arsenal and brought Clive Allen in the opposite direction.

When Barron made an unhappy start, 'Budgie' Burridge was given the chance of a comeback, but chose to have words with former manager Terry Venables about his contractual situation instead, and

Tony Towers
(Birmingham City)

Steve Heighway
(Liverpool)



DUNDEE'S manager Donald Mackay could be forgiven for wearing a slightly bewildered expression these days after riding soccer's unpredictable rollercoaster of success and sorrow. When he took over the troubled Dens Park outfit at the start of the season he realised he would have to give the kiss of life to an ailing zombie after their disastrous tumble out of the Premier Division. The side, once one of the most strikingly attractive in Scotland, needed to re-discover direction, enthusiasm and confidence. Mackay was given that awesome task.

"One-off success is no use to this club," declared Mackay, a former goalkeeper with city rivals Dundee United before coaching stints in England and Scandinavia. "We must achieve consistency. Basically, it's as simple as that. This team beat Celtic 5-1 last season so they must have something to offer. It's my job to put everything together and obviously Premier Division football is our target."

Dundee were way off beam with their lacklustre start to the new campaign. They slipped alarmingly down the table and things looked bleak for Mackay and his players.

Dundee. They will reap the benefits if the attitude is right.

"The crowd potential here is great," says Mackay. "If we provide the goods on the field it would be nice to think the fans will rally round to give their support.

"We need their backing and if we can entertain them as well as bring in the results then they will want to join in."

Last season at this stage Dundee were a team going nowhere but down. What a difference a year makes!

The odds are on them and Hibs climbing back into the Top Ten after only one season in the First Division.

Donald Mackay and Frank Upton will not rest until they achieve success on a consistent basis.

BACK ROW (left to right): Eric Ferguson (physio), Erich Schaeffer, Jim Shira, Les Barr, Cammy Fraser, Robert Geddes, Brian Stringeour, Iain Ferguson, Ian Fleming, Robert Glennie, Frank Upton (coach). FRONT ROW: Donald Mackay (manager), Eric Sinclair, Stuart McKimmie, Ray Stephen, Stewart McLaren, Billy Williamson, Peter Mackie, Jimmy Murphy.

DUNDEE

goal in 180 minutes of football against Aberdeen and he did the trick again in the Semi-Finals against Ayr United.

"I'll never forget those goals," says Cammy, who reveals: "You know, I've got three brothers and they are all Dundee United fans. They even supported United in the League Cup Final."

"They asked me for tickets for the Final. told them to get lost if they weren't going to support Dundee. My dad used to be a United fan, too, but thankfully he has switched his interest since my transfer from Hearts."

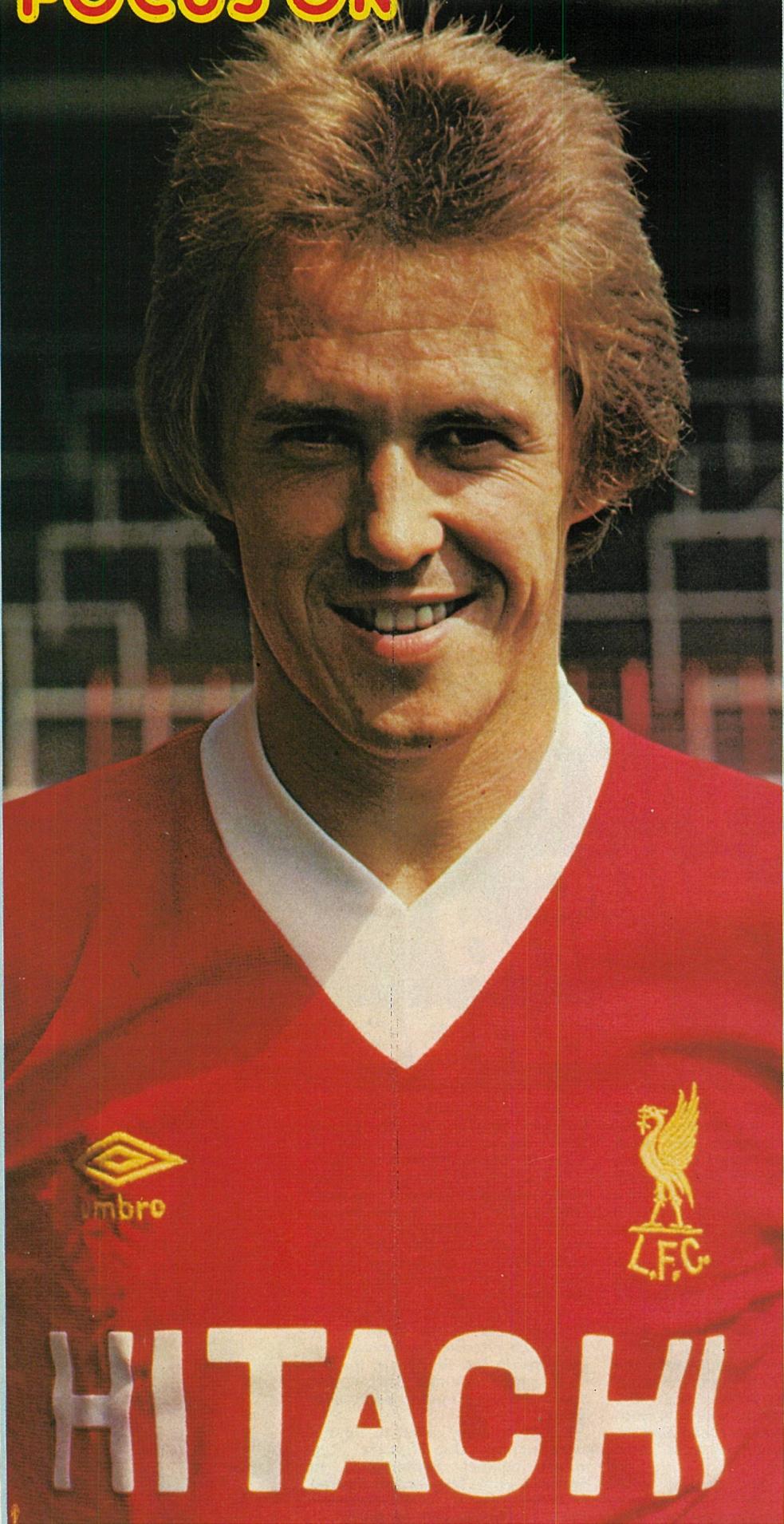
Mackay and Upton deserve great praise in putting Dundee back on the rails again, but the manager says: "There's still room for improvement. Possibly I've been too hard on the players in the past, but it's all been for the good of the club,

I want my players to give their all for

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PHIL NEAL Liverpool

FULL NAME: Philip George Neal

BIRTHPLACE: Irchester, Northants

BIRTHDATE: February 20, 1951

HEIGHT: 5ft 11½ins

WEIGHT: 12st 2lbs

PREVIOUS CLUB: Northampton

MARRIED: Yes

CHILDREN: Natasha 7, Ashley 5

CAR: Toyota Celica

FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Mail

FAVOURITE PLAYER: None in particular

MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Alan Hansen

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: England

FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD:

Bobby Charlton

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Golf

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Willie

Johnston, now back at Rangers

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: 1977

European Cup Final in Rome v Borussia

Moenchengladbach

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing against Manchester United in the 1977

F.A. Cup Final

FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS:

Southampton

FAVOURITE FOOD + DRINK: Roast lamb and dry white wine

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES: Winning and good crowd support/Smoking, cheats within the game

FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Greece

FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND

FEMALE: John Cleese, Diane Keen

FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF:

Golf, oil painting

FAVOURITE SINGERS: ELO, Michael Jackson, Gerry Rafferty

AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: To wind down with a nice meal

BEST FRIEND: Mother-in-law

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:

Dave Bowen, Bill Dodgin Jnr, Bob Paisley — all have played a part in helping my career

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 29 full England caps

PERSONAL AMBITION: To stay fit and

play as long as possible

IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? P.E. teacher

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET?

The Queen

ONE of the most difficult tasks for any Scottish footballer is to keep goal for a member of the Old Firm of Celtic and Rangers.

The reasoning behind that thinking is simple. The Glasgow giants do so much attacking and pressing forward that their 'keeper can spend most of the game in complete isolation with little coming his way to keep his eye in.

Evan Williams, the former Celtic goalkeeper, stresses: "Even when nothing was happening the strain was immense. You could watch your colleagues hammering away at the opponents and not get anywhere and you knew that they might breakaway and try to pinch one."

"That meant you had to be ready to deal with anything yet it was obviously difficult when you had spent, say, 85 minutes out of 90 in inactivity."

Billy Ritchie, the ex-Rangers number one, agrees and says: "It was the same with Rangers. When I played for them we rarely lost and that meant we had the bulk of every game."

"In winter it was even more difficult because the weather invariably got to your limbs and I had to race around the penalty-area in an effort to try to keep warm."

Ally Hunter, the ex-international star of Celtic, says: "I used to prevent my concentration fromwaning by giving myself a match commentary throughout the 90 minutes."

"Even when the ball was behind their goal and the opposition 'keeper was preparing to take a goal-kick I was still doing a commentary. It might have been unusual, but it worked!"

But what of the present 'keepers at Celtic and Rangers? There surely couldn't be a bigger or more marked contrast in their particular careers.

Predicted

PAT BONNAR has come into the Celtic first team to replace Englishman Peter Latchford and, as SHOOT predicted earlier in the season, he has already won a place in Eion Hand's Republic of Ireland World Cup pool after getting a spot in the squad for the game in France.

PETER McCLOY, on the other hand, is the vastly experienced campaigner of Rangers who is about to set a record number of appearances for an Ibrox goalkeeper.

McCloy, who signed for Rangers in an exchange deal ten years ago

Stewart," admits McCloy. "They certainly made certain that neither of us could relax. You always had to be on your toes and the competition kept us both keen."

"There was a stage where I thought I might have to move to get first team football again, but I never really wanted to leave Rangers. They are such a fabulous club and they have been so good to me."

McCloy's consistency improved under the expert coaching of former manager Jock Wallace, who was, of course, a goalkeeper with Airdrie, West Brom and Berwick Rangers during his playing career.

When Wallace took over Leicester City in 1978 John Greig moved into the Ibrox manager's chair and has kept McCloy under special training instructions to improve agility, reflexes and concentration.

And McCloy knows he can't afford to take it easy despite Kennedy's transfer to Forfar during the close season. George Young, bought from Stirling Albion, has been playing well in the reserves and a 6ft plus youngster by the name of Gordon Marshall — the son of the former Celtic goalkeeper of the same name! — is also showing promise.

and says: "What a game in which to return!"

"We had two players ordered off and conceded a late goal before going out of the trophy on the away goals rule. It could have been better. In fact, I still maintain I was fouled before the Rumanians scored their goal, but the Greek referee didn't want to know anything about it."

"Young Pat has done well and we work together in training, but he knows I'm determined to get that first team spot back again as soon as possible."

Bonnar, in fact, has a twin brother who plays as a full-back in Eire and it could be that Celtic manager Billy McNeill will be having a look at him in the future. He has already received some glowing reports from his Irish scouts.

Celtic fans would be absolutely delighted if the other Bonnar turned out to be anything like his twin.

New boy Bonnar and old hand McCloy are currently living under the unique strain of being the last line of defence for the Old Firm. They are both standing up to the pressures remarkably well.

Why it can be tough keeping goal for Celtic and Rangers

with Bobby Watson, the present Airdrie boss, and Brian Heron going to Motherwell, will break Jerry Dawson's record of 505 first team games for the club this season and, at 34, could go on to set a number of appearances that will never be touched, never mind broken.

But things haven't always run so smoothly in McCloy's Rangers career. At one stage he looked doomed to reserve football when the Ibrox men signed Stewart Kennedy from Stenhousemuir, and the newcomer went straight into the first team and even made the international side before that 5-1 thrashing from England at Wembley five years ago wrecked his confidence. Kennedy is now with Forfar.

"I enjoyed my tussles with

Over at Parkhead, 21-year-old Bonnar admits he sometimes thinks he is dreaming when he plays for the Parkhead first team.

"I didn't think I would be in the senior side this season," he says. "Peter Latchford was the regular choice, but, unluckily for him, he was injured shortly before the Danny McGrain testimonial match against Manchester United and I played in his place.

"We drew 0-0 and manager Billy McNeill said some kind things about me afterwards. Anyway, he kept me in the first team for the next match against Morton and I've just kept plugging away ever since."

Latchford was called in for the extraordinary Cup-Winners' Cup match against Politehnica in Rumania while Bonnar was injured

Pat Bonnar, doing remarkably well in his first season at Celtic.

Peter McCloy, now in his tenth year at Ibrox with Rangers.

'A great 1981 has been predicted for me'



MY SOCCER WORLD

Gordon McQueen



ACCORDING to a clairvoyant 1981 will be a terrific year for me, apart from one major disappointment in March.

I don't usually believe in crystal-ball gazers or bother to read my stars in the papers, but if someone takes the trouble of writing to manager Dave Sexton making predictions about me personally you've got to take notice.

Naturally, I'm delighted to hear the good news about 1981 and I'm prepared to accept one setback. In March? Let me think . . . hmm could be the F.A. Cup. The Sixth Round is played early in March, and Scotland take on Northern Ireland in a World Cup-tie on the 25th.

Whatever happens it will be interesting to look back on this column to see if that clairvoyant was right.

Like most people I'll be pleased to see the back of 1980, which was a year of two halves for me . . . just like Ray Wilkins.

The first six months were terrific. Manchester United had qualified for Europe and I enjoyed a fabulous summer break in Florida with my

Action from United's last League visit to Highbury, with Arsenal's Willie Young going close to goal.

family.

We started the 1980-81 season with such high hopes. Dave Sexton had got more or less the squad he wanted and younger players had gained vital experience. The signs were set for a big United revival.

Then came those crippling injuries and a quick exit from the U.E.F.A. Cup by those magnificent Poles from Widzew Lodz.

Being knocked out of Europe so early was perhaps the biggest blow of all during 1980.

The good news is we are still in with a great chance of the Championship despite the injury problems the club have had to face.

The last 12 months haven't been particularly good for Scotland, either. We had a terrible British Championship and summer tour and people, me included, started to wonder where the heck we were going.

Fortunately some pride was restored with a couple of encouraging World Cup results.

I just hope 1981 is a much better year for all the Home countries and the Republic of Ireland.

People became so disillusioned with the game this year it was frightening. The Press knocked players, managers and everything that moved. Fans drifted away mainly because of the recession and hooli-

gan problem.

Even Forest won the European Cup without their usual exciting style.

If 1980 was a dull year for football, I'm very optimistic for an exciting 1981.

Things are starting to buzz even now with the likes of Ipswich, Aston Villa, West Brom, Arsenal and Manchester United all challenging to break Liverpool's domination.

People and fans outside of Anfield have perhaps become a little bored with Liverpool carrying

off the honours for the last 20 years or so. The 1980-81 Championship race is wide open for the first time in many years.

The World Cup is also beginning to take shape with all the Home nations in with a chance of reaching Spain.

More and more clubs seem determined to bring the fun back to the game. Teams appear to be scoring more golden goals.

Hurry up 1981, I can hardly wait.

As a Scot, Christmas doesn't really mean a great deal to me, although it's great to see the kids enjoying themselves.

Tough

All I want Santa to bring me and United are six points from three very tough games against Arsenal this Saturday (December 20th), Liverpool at Old Trafford on Boxing Day and West Brom on December 27th.

A tall order even for Santa perhaps, but sometimes clubs get their best results when least expected.

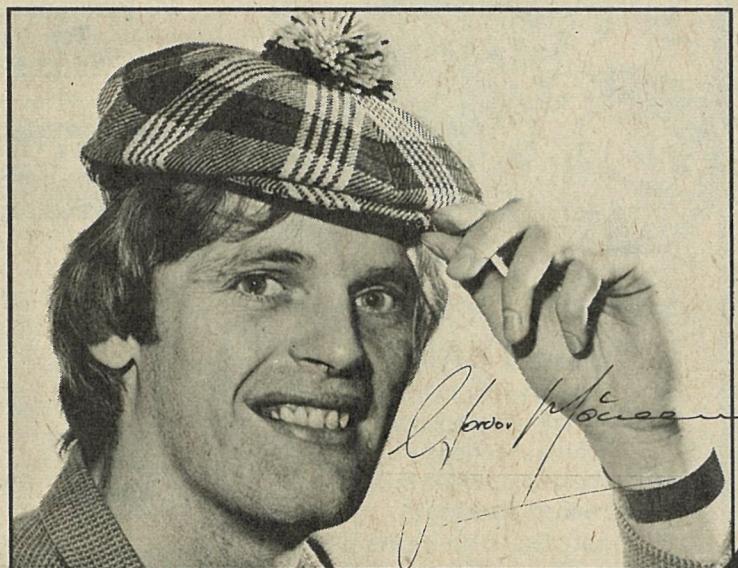
I'll settle for four points. A draw at Highbury and The Hawthorns and a win against our "old enemy" Liverpool. Whatever happens United MUST beat them.

A message now for all SHOOT readers and fans everywhere from all the lads at Manchester United.

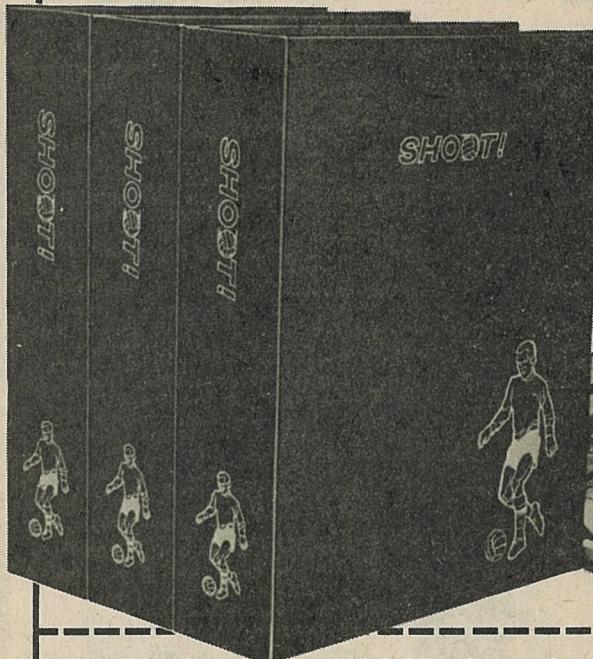
Go to as many games as you can but please stay out of trouble. The fewer incidents we have at games and in the streets afterwards, the more fans will be attracted back to fill the empty terraces.

Packed crowds mean exciting soccer . . . something we all want to see in 1981.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.



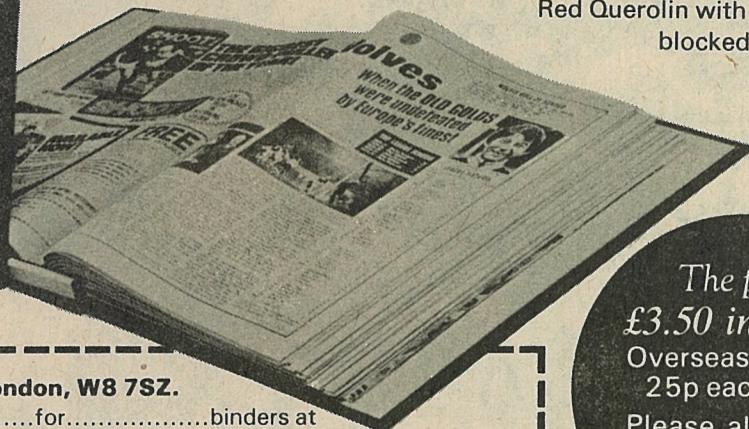
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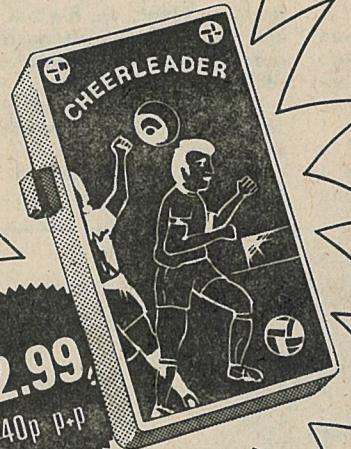


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JOHN Gregory lines up for Brighton against his old Aston Villa team-mates at the Goldstone Ground this Saturday (December 20th) admitting: "I'm not surprised Villa have done so well — this resurgence has been coming for a few years."

Gregory, the Brighton defender, left Villa in the Summer of 1979, after a three-year spell at Villa Park. And he claims he knew then that they would soon be climbing back to the summit of English soccer.

"The signs were apparent when I left that they had a bright future. What has really brought them on this season is confidence — they're a young side with bags of it. They're playing with self-assurance, particularly after hitting the top of the table.

"I believe they'll stay in the top four. Whether they'll stay the course over nine months is another matter. But I think they'll qualify for Europe at the end of the season, and they could enjoy a Cup run. They've got this tradition of doing well in the Cup competitions and they could go close to

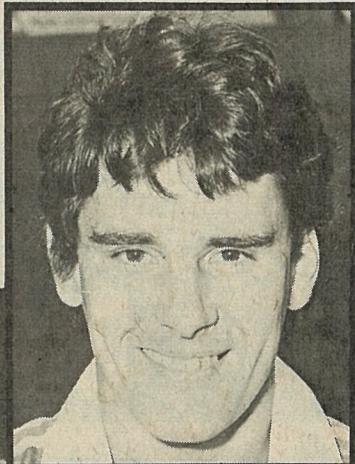
'Villa deserve success' says JOHN GREGORY

Wembley this season, if they get the luck you always need with the draw."

Gregory says Villa haven't changed their style much since he left the club. "They tend to build more from the back these days, but apart from that there's not a great deal of difference. One of their strongest points is still this determination to contain teams in their half of the field.

"Ron Saunders has a very simple

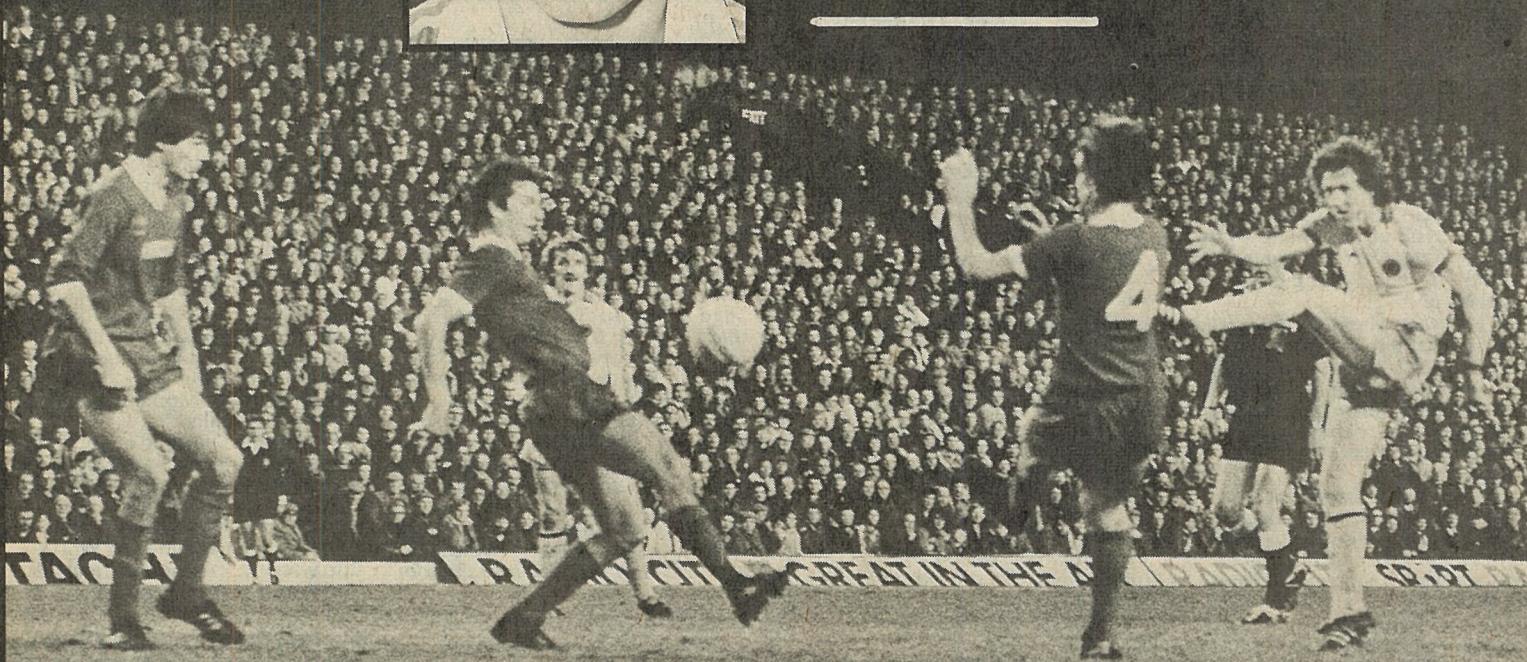
'Villa deserve success'



philosophy on that score — he says that if you win possession from your opponents in their half, they're not likely to do much damage to your goal. It's very simple, but Villa work hard to put it into effect and they do it well."

Villa travel to the Goldstone this Saturday confident in the knowledge that they're already beaten Albion once this season. That was a 4-1 win in the League at Villa Park in October, and Gregory

Allan Evans (light strip) scores for Villa at Liverpool last month.



scored the goal which put Brighton ahead in the first-half.

"Unfortunately, they got a rather lucky equaliser just before half-time which knocked the wind out of our sails," said Gregory.

"We'd had the best of it up till then but when they got that equaliser and then scored a second very early in the second-half, thanks to a bad back pass in our

defence, they got on top. There was no living with them after that.

"But they won't get an easy ride this Saturday. We may have had a rough time so far this season, but we'll be a match for them at home.

"All we have lacked is confidence, but once that changes we'll prove we're better than a lot of other sides in the First Division in terms of footballing ability."

Gregory is pleased to see Villa's recovery, although he hopes it will receive a temporary setback at the Goldstone this weekend!

He says: "They've got such loyal supporters that it's only right they should be doing better.

"Their fans have been starved of success and are desperate for a really big prize — like winning the First Division title or the F.A. Cup. But we've got a score to settle in this match, because we all felt aggrieved at that 4-1 defeat up there back in October.

"That scoreline flattered Villa and they knew it. So if we can beat them this Saturday, we'll prove the point to them."

COPA DE ORO

A New Year soccer spectacular

FIFTY years ago, Uruguay celebrated the centenary of their independence by building a brand-new football stadium in Montevideo. And the cement on the terracing was still wet when a capacity crowd of 70,000 watched Uruguay beat Argentina 4-2 in the first World Cup Final.

Two years ago the Uruguayans had the idea of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the World Cup by inviting the six winners of the competition to play a tournament in the same Centenario stadium.

England, beset by the hectic Christmas League programme, declined the invitation and have been replaced by twice runners-up Holland — who joined Uruguay, Italy, Brazil, West Germany and World Champions Argentina in the New Year race for the *Copa de Oro*, football's Gold Cup.

The hosts have made a determined effort to ensure a resounding success for their mid-Summer soccer spectacular. They've spent over half a million dollars on giving the Centenario stadium a facelift.

They've promised each country £60,000 a match plus £600 a day living allowance, and a prize of just over £40,000 for the winners.

Expensive

Tickets for the event were sold out within 72 hours of being put on sale, and the stage seems to be set for 100 of the world's top players to produce the very best of their expensive skills.

Obviously, World Champions Argentina are the team to beat — and no one would like to beat them more than their arch-enemies Brazil.

New manager Tele Santana could be sacked if Brazil fare badly, and he'll be hoping that his idols, such as Zico (above right) and Socrates, will at last make some sort of impression in a major tournament against top-class opposition.

By contrast, Menotti's Argentina side have little to prove, though the World Champions are taking the tournament seriously enough to set up a training camp in a bid to be fit enough to 'defend their prestige' during the Argentine summer holidays.

All eyes will obviously be on 20-year-old wonder-boy Diego Maradona who, along with River Plate striker Ramon Diaz, will be virtually the only new faces from the 1978 side.

The only European representatives in Group B will be none other than the Continent's current Champions West Germany, who'll presumably have the edge on the holidaying South Americans in terms of match-fitness, though Bernd Schuster and Uli Stielike will be



notable absences from their title side.

If Group B seems to unite the three ball-playing sides of the tournament, Group A's line-up of Italy, Holland and host nation Uruguay seems likely to provide some physical battling that'll sort the men from the boys.

Italy's manager Enzo Bearzot will be trying new permutations in a bid to rejuvenate his side in time for the 1982 World Cup.

And Dutch manager Jan Zwartkruis will relish the chance of trying some of his youngsters against top opposition, having lost practically all of the 1978 World Cup sides.

We can only hope that the six teams in the *Copa de Oro* will feel that, with no major title at stake, they can delight us with the very best of their skills, and kick off the New Year with some attacking football free from the fear of defeat that has marred the top tournaments in recent years.

The *Copa de Oro* programme

Group A:

Dec 30 Uruguay v Holland

Jan 3 Italy v Uruguay

Jan 6 Holland v Italy

Group B:

Jan 1 Argentina v West Germany

Jan 4 Brazil V Argentina

Jan 7 West Germany v Brazil

The two group winners will meet in the Grand Final on January 10th.



CROSSTALK
between

MARADONA

Argentina's all-

SOME fans who've seen film of Real Madrid's European Cup feats rate Alfredo di Stefano as the greatest footballer of all time — arguably an even more complete player than the great Pele. Now an accomplished manager, the first thing di Stefano did after his shock dismissal from Valencia was to head home to Buenos Aires. And there, under the auspices of clothing manufacturers Le Coq Sportif, the legendary Real Madrid striker met today's number one, Diego Maradona, for the first time. Diego greeted Alfredo by asking for his autograph and presenting him with an Argentine number ten shirt, and Buenos Aires' top sports magazine "El Grafico" was there to eavesdrop on the conversation as the idol of the 50's met the idol of the 80's.

DI STEFANO: Since I've been in Argentina people have kept asking me if you're the number one footballer in the world. I tell them it's a ridiculous question. And what importance has it got anyway?

If we all start telling you that you're the best in the world you've

got a millstone round your neck for the rest of your life.

You wouldn't be able to play badly in a single game without people criticising you. I'd be doing you more of a favour if I said that you're simply the number two — and let you live a quieter life.

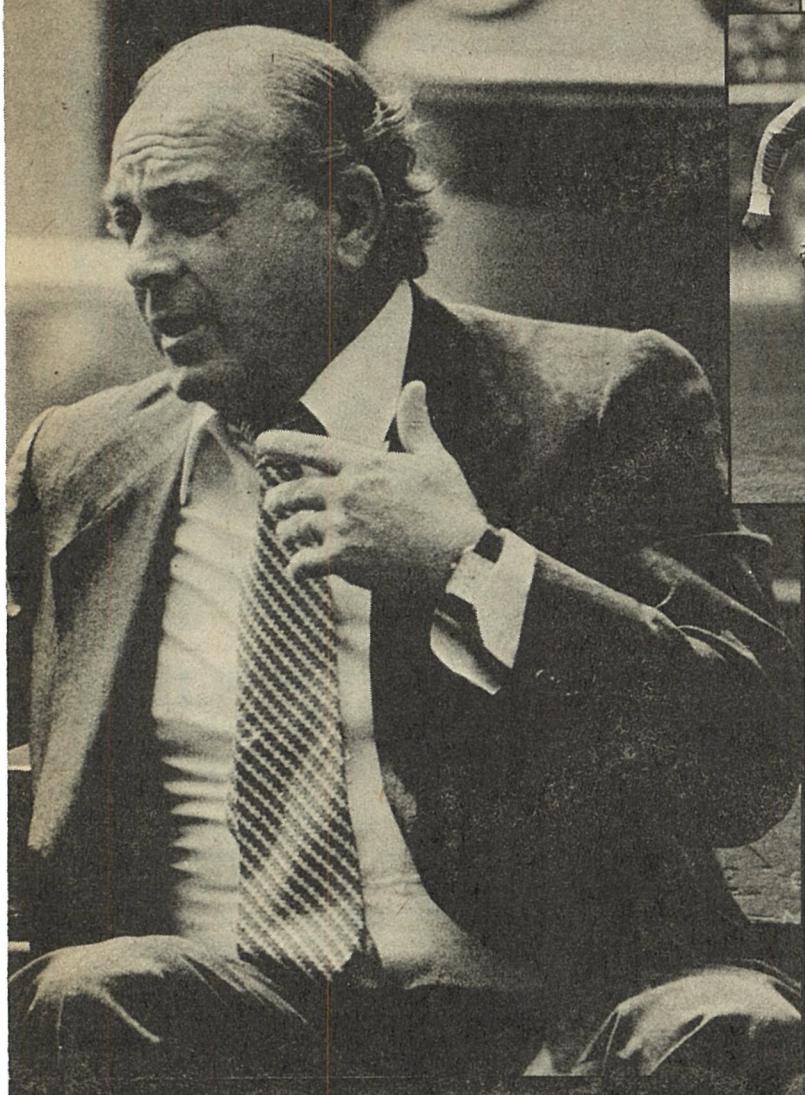
Anyway, from what I've heard, you've got a sensible head on your shoulders and you haven't forgotten that the important thing in football is to put your talents to use for the team, and not just to shine individually.

From what I've seen of you in the national team, you've developed a lot since I saw you last year. In fact, I like the Argentine team — both the '78 team and the current one.

You know, from the last World Cup what impressed me most was the work that Ardiles and Gallego did.

MARADONA: Yes, 'Tollo' Gallego seems to play better and better. He does everything. He'd even carry the kit if you asked him.

DI STEFANO: And Barbas! There's a youngster with a tremendous future! He covers a



and DI STEFANO time greats

tremendous amount of ground in midfield. But I get the impression that the crowd get on his back and he tries to be a little too hurried.

MARADONA: Could be. I remember he played a blinder in Scotland, when we won comfortably. But back here in Argentina he suffers from the same problem as the rest of us. If you make two or three square

passes the fans begin to get impatient, and then you start trying to do things too quickly.

DI STEFANO: You've come on a lot in the last year. You play a less static game now. You play a more important role in setting up moves. And you've developed personality. The other kid who's impressed me is Ramon Diaz. I liked the way he took his goals in the recent series of internationals.

MARADONA: Yes, after the last game against Czechoslovakia I spoke to him in the dressing-room and said 'if you carry on playing like that, you're going to be the best striker in the world'. He really was fantastic. By the way, one thing I wanted to ask you was how you managed to play 20 years of top football with so few injuries?

DI STEFANO: I was too fast for them! And I always concentrated on what was going on around me. Maybe you're going to get more knocks than I used to. My style was to play the ball longish and then use my sprinting. You've got more close control, and you lose



Pele came in for some brutal treatment from opponents.



Amerigo Gallego



Mario Kempes



Daniel Valencia

defenders by turning on a sixpence or braking and accelerating. Only experience will teach you how to protect yourself.

MARADONA: How did Pele protect himself?

DI STEFANO: Don't take Pele as your example. Apart from the three World Cups and 1,000 goals, he also holds the world record for fractures! You know when someone was giving him stick, he used to go in two-footed or with a foot in the air. That was the black side of Pele's football, and don't you ever copy him. It just isn't football.

MARADONA: I think this is typical of Brazilian football. Physically, they're not the strongest in the world and they try to make up for that with some ugly tackling. In any case, I've learnt that if I overdo the individual stuff I'm laying myself wide open to a bad tackle.

I remember my youth trainer simply used to stop the game when I started trying to dribble my way past all the defence. Now I try to blend my solo play with good team work.

But I'd hate to be one of those players who, if they can't see anyone to pass to, stand on the ball and shout at their team-mates to start running. I get my head down and make things happen.

But talking about bad tackles, did you get sent-off much during your career, Alfredo?

DI STEFANO: Very few times. I remember once in the River Plate youth team when I was dismissed for applauding the referee!

MARADONA: That's a coincidence! The first time I was sent-off, it was for the same thing!

DI STEFANO: The funniest occasions were when I first arrived in Spain. In my Real Madrid games, when the ref blew his whistle I used to say "que cobras?" like we do here in Argentina when we want to know what he's blown for. The problem was that in Spain it means "how much have they paid you?" and the refs used to go berserk! Anyway, time has taught me that it's pointless complaining to the referee and protesting against his decisions. He isn't going to change them.

My advice is to talk only to your team-mates. When you start talking to referees or opponents, that's when you begin to forget about playing football.

MARADONA: What about the Copa de Oro? How do you rate us against the other countries?

DI STEFANO: Well, I don't like to make predictions, but Argentina has a wealth of talent at the moment — enough to improve on the '78 team. I've been very impressed by Valencia — he's very fast and shoots well with both feet. And with Kempes, Bertoni, Ardiles . . .

MARADONA: Yes, if I had to choose one out of those three, I'd go for Kempes. With Mario up front I believe we'd have enough striking power to beat anyone in the world.

Di Stefano and Maradona. Two of the greatest names in world football. "Don't you change, lad," said Alfredo as the two drank a toast. "Just stay as you are." "What a character!" remarks Diego. Thirty years of football history separate them, but when you've got soccer in your blood . . .



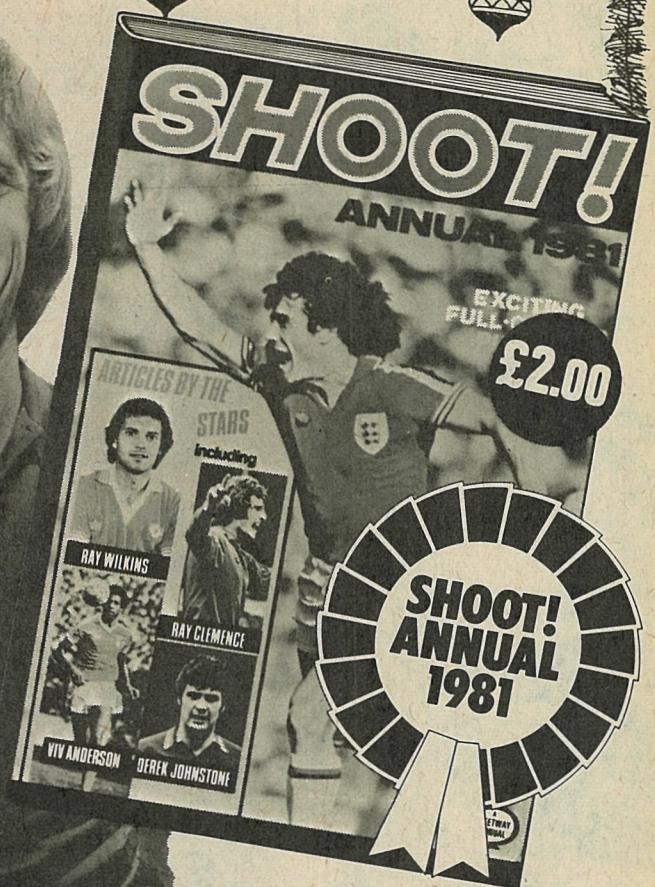
Di Stefano and Maradona propose a toast.

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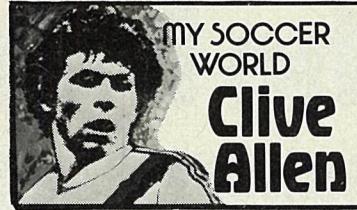
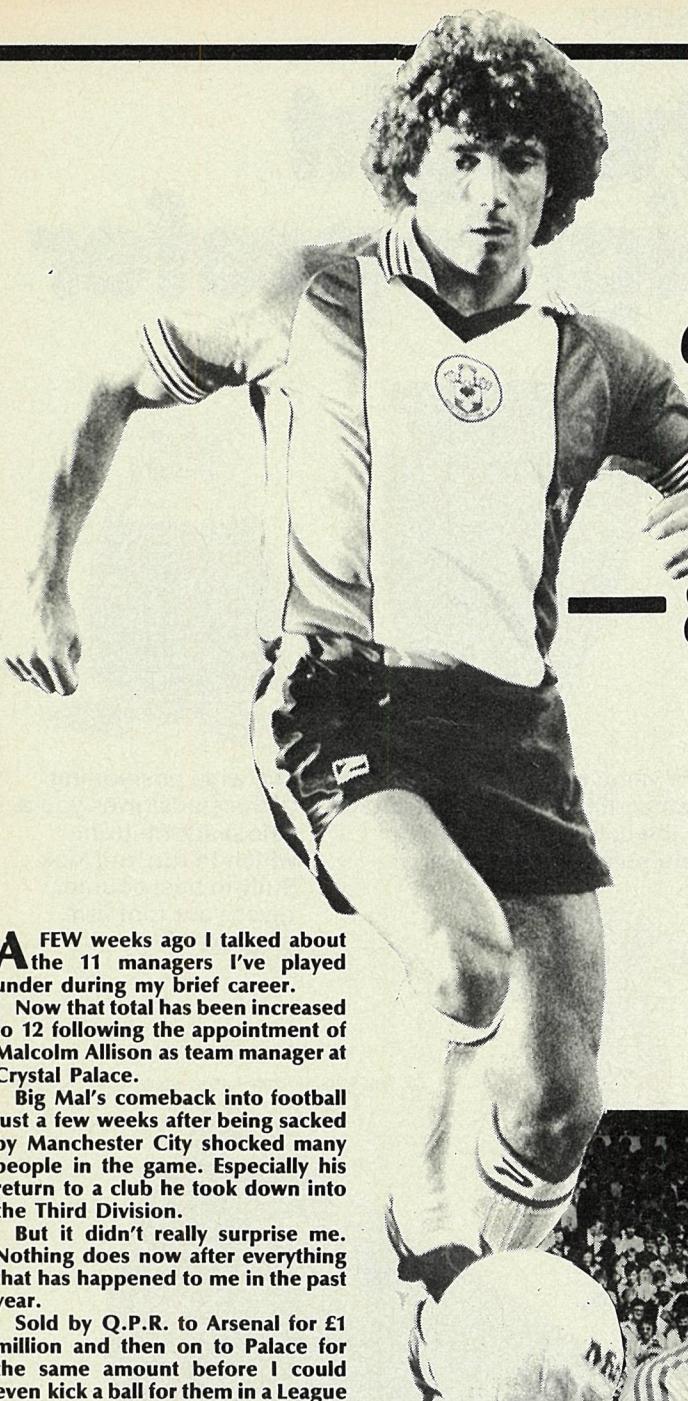
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'Meeting Kevin Keegan — a real Christmas treat'

A FEW weeks ago I talked about the 11 managers I've played under during my brief career.

Now that total has been increased to 12 following the appointment of Malcolm Allison as team manager at Crystal Palace.

Big Mal's comeback into football just a few weeks after being sacked by Manchester City shocked many people in the game. Especially his return to a club he took down into the Third Division.

But it didn't really surprise me. Nothing does now after everything that has happened to me in the past year.

Sold by Q.P.R. to Arsenal for £1 million and then on to Palace for the same amount before I could even kick a ball for them in a League match.

Then Terry Venables quitting for my old club Rangers, to be replaced by Ernie Walley who dropped me.

After that nothing shocks me. I'm prepared for anything.

Obviously it's too early for me to comment on Malcolm Allison's plans for Palace and if I'm to form part of the club's future.

His appointment was certainly popular with the majority of Selhurst Park fans who remember him from his former days when the Fedora hat, cigar and champagne formed part of the scene.

Vince Hilaire welcomed the move. Apparently Big Mal was responsible for bringing him and a good many of the younger players to the club in the first place.

As I said last week, being dropped unsettled me but I didn't ask for a move. I still haven't. All I want is to do well, improve my game and show the Palace fans I can do a good job for them and the club.

That's my hope for 1981 . . . to become a better player. All my

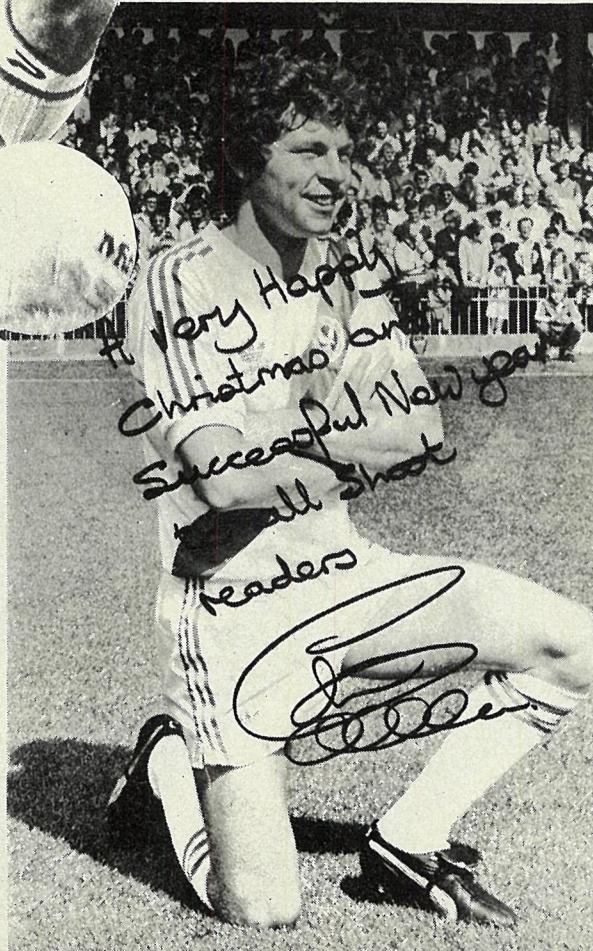
experiences of the past year should stand me in good stead.

But it's Christmas and a time to forget all about the bad things of 1980. I love the festive season and look forward to it.

I suppose being part of a big family helps. We always have a party on one of the nights over Christmas and this year will be no exception.

Everyone will be there, including my cousin Paul, who is at West Ham, of course.

I'm not usually a big eater and



only drink the occasional lager so there's no danger of me being too full of the Christmas spirit.

Anyway, I suppose we'll train on Christmas morning. Most clubs do these days.

This year Palace have a hard programme of fixtures. If I play it will be the first time I've actually been involved in League action over the festive season. Well, on Boxing Day.

Last season Q.P.R.'s match against Orient was called off because of bad weather.

I'm hoping for better luck this year and the chance to play against Southampton at The Dell this Saturday (December 20th), Arsenal at home on Boxing Day and away to Brighton on December 27th.

I'm particularly looking forward to the game at The Dell and the chance to meet Kevin Keegan for the first time.

He's out with hamstring trouble at the moment and won't be playing, but it would make an ideal Christmas treat for me just to have a few words with him and get his autograph for my young brother Brad. He's got quite a collection.

Saints were criticised a few weeks ago by Manchester United manager Dave Sexton for playing a defensive game at Old Trafford.

Well, they certainly didn't shut up shop at Selhurst Park on October 21st. Palace won a cracking game 3-2 thanks to a magnificent hat-trick by Mike Flanagan.

Confident

A similar result would send Palace home happy and fully confident to face Arsenal on Boxing Day.

Obviously I've extra special reasons for wanting to do well against The Gunners. On the other hand, former Palace star Kenny Sansom will be looking for victory on his old ground.

All my family and Kenny's family will be sitting together in the stands. I expect the cigars will be handed around whatever the result.

Brighton is regarded as a local derby to Palace fans. I don't know why but there's some needle between the two clubs and games have that extra bite. Rather like Cup-ties.

Apart from the rivalry this is a vital game for both teams who are struggling to escape the relegation zone at the moment.

Although my return to the side against Forest didn't go too well, I am sure things will improve for the club.

Six points for Palace this Christmas will be a real bonus. A super start for the new managerial team of Malcolm Allison and Ernie Walley.

Only leaves me now to sign off with these best wishes to everyone for a very happy Christmas.

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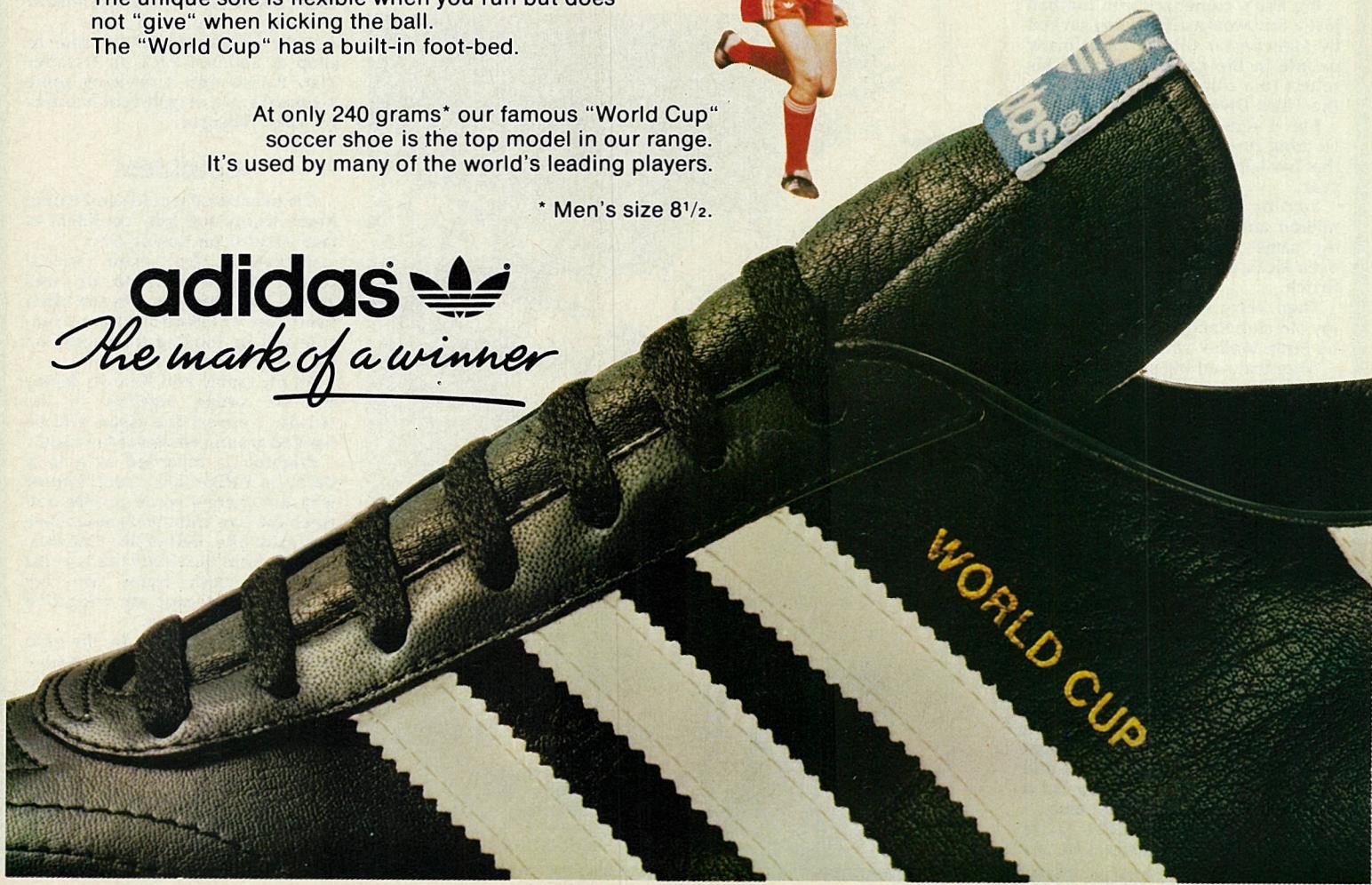
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Why England's 'best winger' is playing for Nigeria

A GREAT opportunity missed by England! That is the forth-right comment of Orient manager Jimmy Bloomfield over John Chiedozie's decision to play for Nigeria. "He is the best right-winger in the country," maintains Bloomfield.

"As an Englishman, I would have loved to have seen him in our colours but, sadly, I have to say that England made no move for him. It was John's decision, and his alone, to play for Nigeria."

Nothing will shift Orient's manager from his view that the lithe, electrifying Chiedozie is the best there is. "He is going to be THE player of the 80's," he states. "He has everything that he needs to go right to the very top and stay there."

"His acceleration is like lightning, his close control exciting and he is showing more and more this season that he is a goalscorer. Steve Coppell is doing the job in the England side that should have gone to John — who, in my view, is a better player."

"That is no disrespect to Coppell, who is a very good player by any standard, but John is something extra special... and he is only 20. He has three years of first team football behind him already, but he is still learning and there is a lot more to come from him yet."

"It is sad that England did not 'lock him up' by including him in an Under-21 squad. That was all that was needed to establish his football nationality and England could now be looking forward to ten years of one of the finest talents I've seen."

"I've made my decision and I do not have one shred of regret," says Chiedozie. "People have said 'What about never having the chance of playing an international at Wembley?' but there is a lot more to it than that."

"I was born in Owerri, Nigeria, and I lived there until I was 12. It is my home. I'm proud to play for Nigeria and it means a lot to my grandmother, my mother and my father. That is where my international ambitions lie now, and there is simply no point in looking back and reflecting on what-might-have-been."

Favourites

Ironically, John's chances of reaching the World Cup Finals are just as good, if not better, than if he had been in Ron Greenwood's English squad. Nigeria are now favourites to qualify from their African group of Tunisia and Tanzania.

"Tunisia were the favourites to reach Spain at the start. Then we took our tie against them by winning the home leg match in Lagos on a penalty shoot out," says John. "That makes us favourites. If we now beat Tanzania, as we should, we are in Spain for 1982!"

It was a trip home — his first since his family became refugees in the Biafra War of eight years ago — last summer which finally made up his mind. It was an Orient summer tour and the East London club were popular visitors with John and another new Nigerian international, Tunji Banjo, great attractions in a soccer-mad nation.

"It was a very different country from the one I had left during the War. Peaceful, more settled and with high ambitions in football. They had already tried for me to play for them in the African Nations Cup, but that clashed with the finale of our season here."

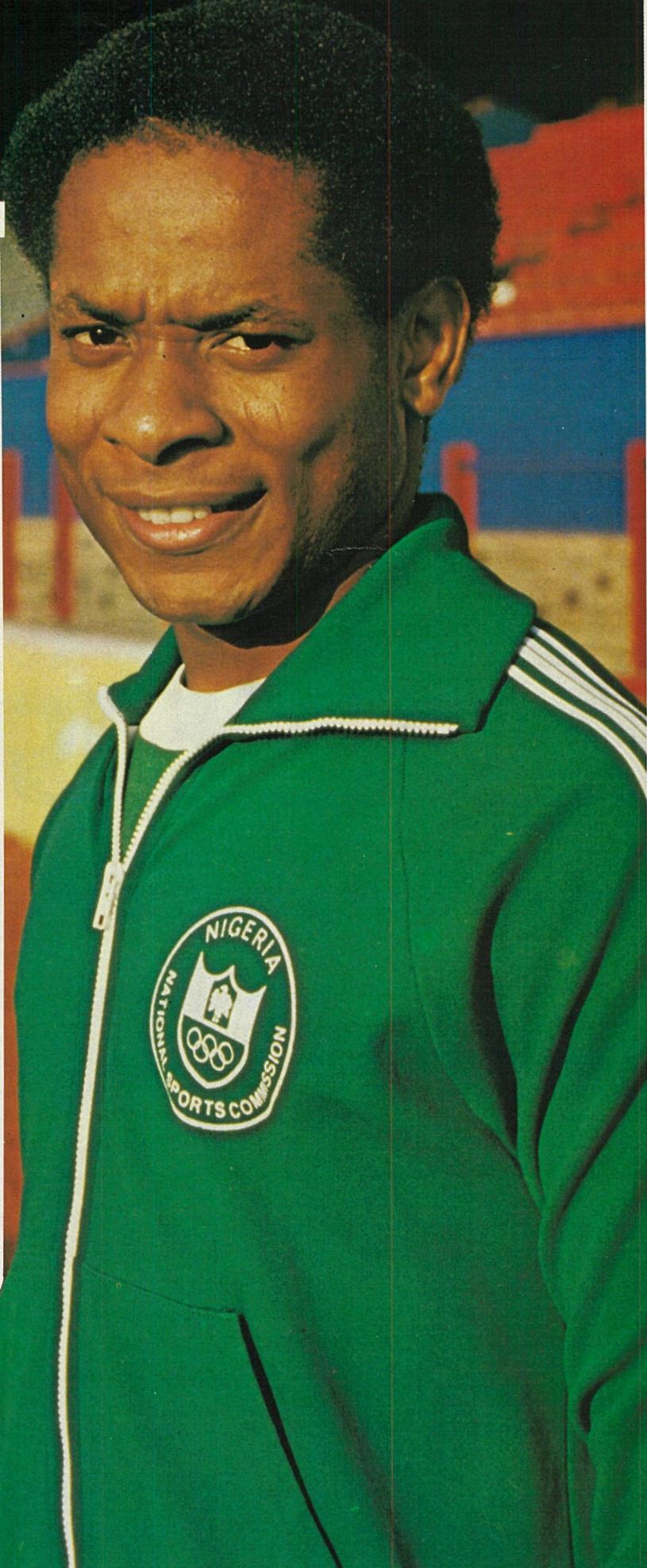
"This time it was different. I was delighted to say 'Yes, I'd like to be a Nigerian international and play in the World Cup'."

In fact, it was an anti-climax start. In a vital clash in Lagos, John only lasted the first 45 minutes against Tunisia; then an injury forced him off the pitch and he had to sit in frustration before Nigeria finally edged out the highly-rated Tunisians.

"But it could be very exciting from now on," he says. "I am looking forward to reaching the World Cup Finals and playing there against England — I'd enjoy that!"

Manager Bloomfield says: "John is so keen to learn and so determined to take in everything he is told. That is why he is becoming such a fine player with even more to come."

Orient's star protégé agrees: "I feel that I'm playing better this season. I'm much more confident, especially when it comes to scoring. I'm far more consistent in front of goal now."



THE last 12 months have seen the best and the worst moments of my career. If 1979 was memorable for my transfer from Chelsea to Manchester United, I certainly shan't forget 1980 in a hurry.

It started so well, with United finishing second to Liverpool in the First Division. At one time I even thought I could finish my first season at Old Trafford with a Championship medal.

The European Championship went well for me, personally, and I was feeling confident that after a short holiday in Barbados my niggling groin injury would clear up and I could carry on where I left off in Italy.

Of course it wasn't to be. My six-month absence has been a real kick in the teeth and if relegation with Chelsea was an awful feeling, nothing can compare with the frustration of being sidelined so long, especially after reaching a 'high' in Italy.

Thankfully, I resumed training at the beginning of November and I

hope to reach peak fitness again very soon. I've a lot of time to make up for.

I was disappointed to miss out on the UEFA Cup. One of the main reasons I joined United was to play in Europe and it was agony seeing the team go at the first time of asking, albeit to a very impressive Widzew Lodz side.

If I remember one particular moment from 1980, though, it will be a good one . . . my goal against Belgium in Turin. It was only my second goal for England, the first coming a year before in Austria, so it was extra satisfying.

It's not been too good a season so far for the Wilkins family in general. Graham injured a shoulder during the autumn and came back only last month for Chelsea.

Steve's F.A. Cup dreams were ended by those famous giantkillers Yeovil. Steve plays for Hayes and they were knocked out just before the Third Division clubs enter the competition. He was telling me that he fancied a crack at United at Old

Trafford . . .

Dean made his debut for Queens Park Rangers at Grimsby a few weeks ago, coming on as sub for the last three minutes. He's a left sided player, although it isn't certain whether he'll end up in defence or midfield.

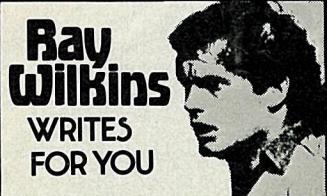
I feel sorry for Dean, who's only 18. In some ways he has nothing going for him as comparisons are inevitable. He's learnt to live with this, although as he progresses it could be more of an uphill struggle for him.

A busy Christmas for United and anything less than four points will be a setback for our title hopes. We start on December 20th at Highbury and any game against Arsenal, home or away, is hard. They're so well organised and difficult to break

RIGHT: "My brother Graham has been suffering from a shoulder injury and made only a few appearances for Chelsea so far."



'MY MAGIC MOMENT OF 1980'



down.

United have drawn on the last two visits and Saturday's game will, I'm sure, once again be a close affair.

On Boxing Day — what many of our fans will see as the match of the season, at home to Liverpool. I remember the corresponding fixture last season. They took the lead and missed an easy chance to make it 2-0. Mickey Thomas equalised and Jimmy Greenhoff grabbed the winner.

Obvious

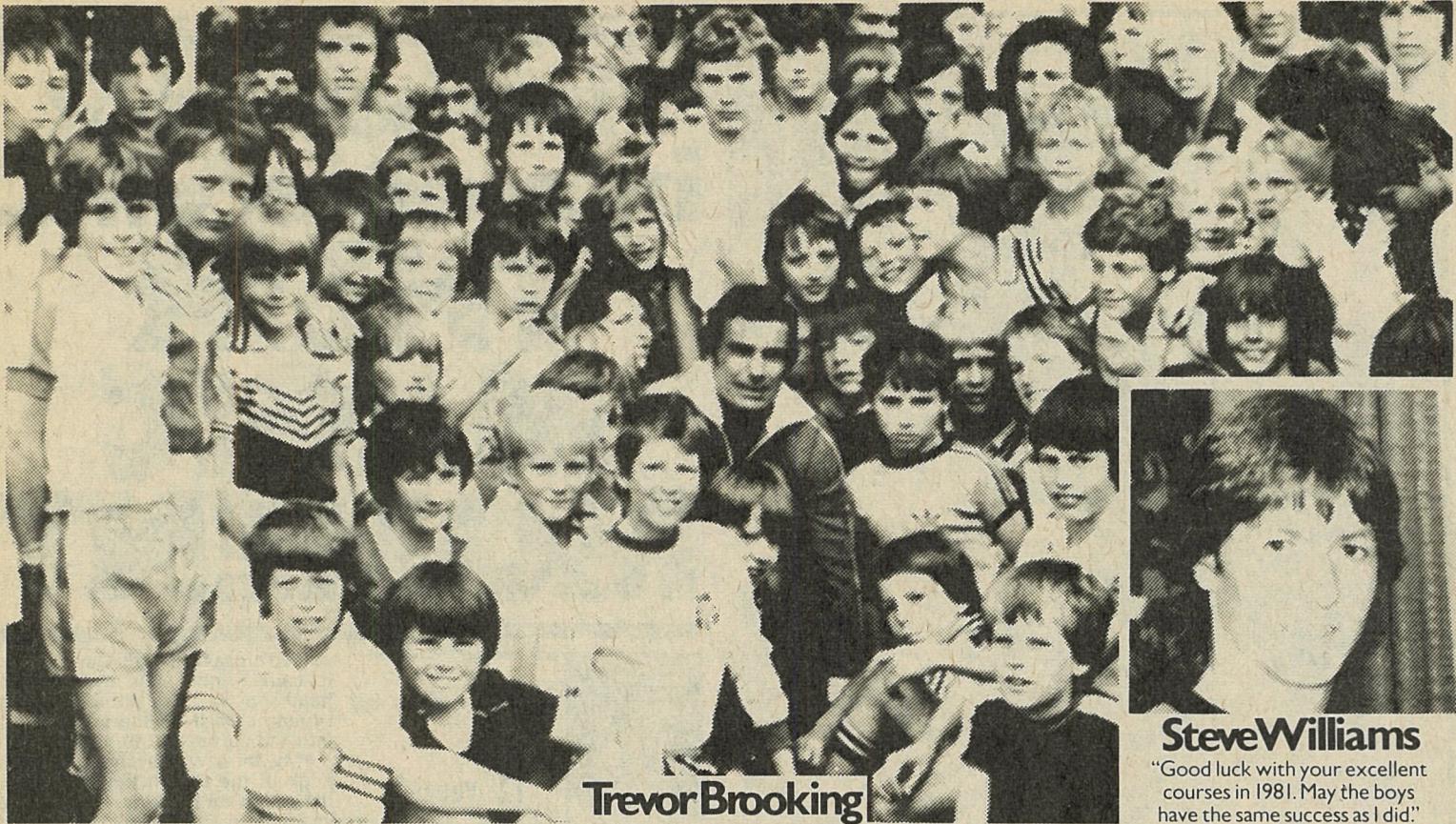
This is the sort of game we simply must win, for obvious reasons.

The next day, December 27th, we travel to West Brom, where we have a poor record, losing the last four games there without even scoring.

West Brom have several excellent players, although I don't think they're quite back to where they were two years ago. Then, two or three forwards were scoring a lot of goals . . . Cyrille Regis, Tony Brown and Ally Brown were regular scorers . . . now, they don't have anyone finding the net so often.

Have a good Christmas, try and go to a game — and join me again in 1981.

LEFT: "My goal for England against Belgium in the European Championship was particularly satisfying."



Trevor Brooking

Steve Williams

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Wednesday	Coaching: Tackling	Coaching: Dribbling	A Visit to a League Club		5-a-Side in Gymnasium
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Friday	Game	Game	Presentation of Prizes and Certificates	Departure	

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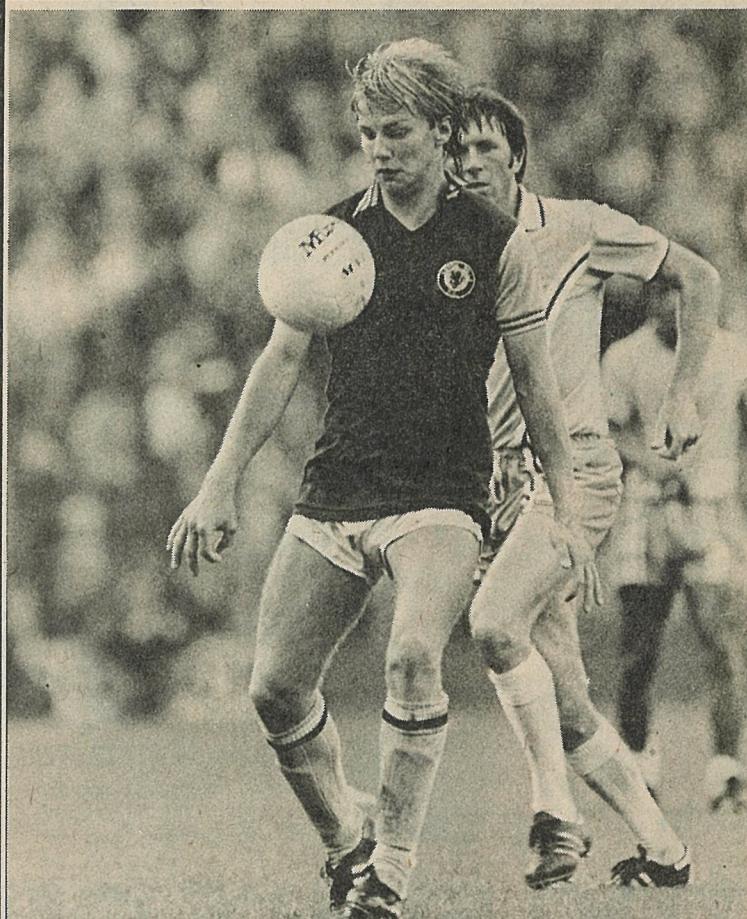
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Gary Shaw, who has caught the eye of Terry McDermott this season.



'A little embarrassing'
TERRY McDERMOTT

TERRY McDermott's hat-trick came as Liverpool ran amok and thrashed Norwegian part-timers OPS Oulu in the European Cup, First Round, second-leg tie at Anfield.

"The game was so one-sided that it became a little embarrassing, particularly as they managed to hold us to a 1-1 draw at their place a fortnight earlier.

"The first of my three came when Kenny Dalglish broke through their defence and shot the ball past the unfortunate 'keeper. The ball was going in but I raced after it and from six inches tapped it over the line.

"I nicked it because Kenny scores enough during a season and he took it well.

"The second came when Sammy Lee had the ball wide on the right. As he crossed it, I hit it on the turn and it went straight into the net.

"I saved my best goal for the one that completed my hat-trick. The ball was only half-cleared by the Norwegians and as it dropped to me on the edge of the penalty-

area, I hit it on the half-volley and it gave the 'keeper no chance as it went into the net.

"When we played Aston Villa at Anfield in a First Division game, in November, I was most impressed with their young striker Gary Shaw.

"He has struck a good understanding with his partner up front, Peter Withe.

"He creates a lot of space for himself in the penalty-area. And the experience of playing alongside Withe should help him develop his potential.

"Definitely one to look for in the future."



Five hat-trick heroes recall... THEIR MAGIC MOMENT



**'My first
in
12 years'
LEIGHTON
JAMES**

SWANSEA's Welsh international Leighton James scored his hat-trick in a 3-1 League victory over Derby County at the Vetch Field in October.

"I have been playing for 12 years, and that was the first time I've ever netted three in a game, so obviously it was a bit special for me.

"Quite often I've got two in a game, but I'd never managed to complete the hat-trick before, and I was getting to thinking it would never come.

"The first goal was an easy one for me — from the penalty spot. It was awarded for a handball against a Derby defender. I won't say where I put it, but the 'keeper had no real chance with it.

"The second goal was the best of the three without a doubt. A move built up down the left, ending with

a deep cross from little David Giles. It came right over everybody's head and as I ran in at the back post I hammered it on the volley right into the corner of the goal.

"My third was a shot from the edge of the box. It took a bit of a deflection on the way, but after 12 years there was no way I was going to let anybody take that one away from me!

"It's good to be getting my fair share of goals this season, because we have quite a few lads here at Swansea who can put them away. But as long as somebody is getting the goals we must be in with a great chance of promotion, even though there is a long way to go yet.

"Apart from the lads at Swansea, the goalscorers who have impressed me the most are obviously the West Ham pair David Cross and Paul Goddard. I was with Paul at Queens Park Rangers, and he was a great player even then.

"Clive Walker and Colin Lee are also doing a good job for Chelsea, but if I had to pick one man who has really caught my eye it would be Sheffield Wednesday's Andy McCulloch.

"He is a big strong lad, and he caused us all sorts of problems when we played them at Hillsborough. He scored one of the goals when they beat us 3-2."

Sheffield Wednesday's Andy McCulloch heads past Swansea's Nigel Stevenson at Hillsborough.

**'Three lucky goals'
PAUL WALSH**



PAUL WALSH netted his first hat-trick for Charlton against Brentford in this season's League Cup First Round, and the teenage goalscoring sensation has been in outstanding form ever since.

"We lost the first leg of the tie



**David Kemp,
Plymouth
Argyle's
goalscoring
striker.**



Paul Mariner, Dave Hubbick's former Ipswich team-mate, scores against Manchester United at Portman Road.



'A second-half sensation'
DAVE HUBBICK

LIKE Terry McDermott, Dave Hubbick scored a hat-trick against part-time opposition. His threesome came in late November as Wimbledon over-ran Windsor and Eton in the F.A. Cup First Round at Plough Lane.

"Although Wimbledon won 7-2, Windsor and Eton put up a tremendous showing in the first-half and we only led them 2-1 at the interval.

"My hat-trick of goals all came in a sensational second-half spell as the part-timers ran out of steam.

"The first came after a fine run from Steve Ketteridge. He hit a perfect centre and I gave the goalkeeper no chance with a strong header from six yards.

"Three or four minutes later, a powerful shot from John Leslie was only palmed out by the 'keeper and I had the easy task of scoring from close range again.

"Hodges beat two players in the Windsor half and slotted a perfect through ball to me and once again, from six yards, I gave the goalkeeper no chance.

"Despite the opposition it was a very satisfying threesome.

"I only joined Wimbledon from Ipswich Town in October, so it is hard for me to name a striker in the Fourth Division.

"However I would say Paul Mariner at my former club is the best I've seen this season.

"He must be the best centre-forward in the Football League at the moment.

"Paul is a good all round player who knows where the goal is. He is also very unselfish and creates a lot of space for Alan Brazil, Eric Gates and others.

"I'd like to think I learnt from watching Paul and that it has made me a better player from the experience."

3-1 at Griffin Park, but we played reasonably well and didn't deserve to finish the game two goals behind.

"Manager Mike Bailey decided to keep faith in the team and didn't make any changes, but we knew we had to pull something pretty special out of the bag if we were to get through to the Second Round.

"We played really well that night, and everything seemed to go right for us. We won 5-0 — I got three and Derek Hales got two.

"My first goal was a bit lucky. Kevin Smith tried a shot, but completely miskicked. The ball rolled straight to me about ten yards out and I had so much time and space I could afford to stop the ball and pick my spot.

Connected

"The second was pretty similar. Derek Hales hit a low cross over and I was running in and connected with it first time from about ten yards out again.

"My third was even easier. I was running in at the back post, and a deep cross just floated over everybody and left me with a simple header from close range.

"It was a marvellous feeling to get those goals, especially as I had netted our only effort in the first leg, but I must give credit to Derek Hales for the part he played.

"Obviously, I have been impressed by Exeter's Tony Kellow and David Kemp at Plymouth, simply because they have managed to score so consistently throughout the season.

"But for my money, Derek is the best striker in the Third Division, and it is great to see him getting back among the goals for Charlton."

'Sorry for their 'keeper'
JOHN MacDONALD



JOHN MacDONALD's hat-trick for Rangers in their record-breaking blistering 8-1 triumph over Kilmarnock at Rugby Park was tinged with a bit of sadness.

"Certainly it was marvellous to score those goals," says young John, "but I had sympathy with Kilmarnock goalkeeper Jim Brown who was making his first team debut because regular No. 1 Alan McCulloch was injured.

"I'm roughly the same age as the 'keeper, so I can understand how he must have felt on his big day. If it's any consolation, no one could have stopped us that day.

"We played really well and some of our efforts were unsaveable."

Composure

MacDonald's hat-trick was taken smartly with the ease and composure of a player who is being rated as a Jimmy Greaves in Scotland.

"The first goal was a header from a cross by Colin McAdam on the left. The second came after half-time ... a shot on the volley that swept low into the net. The third came a minute from time — another header after a cross from the wing.

"The strikers who have impressed me most in the Scottish Premier Division? Well, obviously I have to mention Charlie Nicholas, who can't seem to go wrong for Celtic.

"We have played together in the Scotland Under-21 side this season, and I struck up an understanding with him almost straight away. He is obviously going to be around for a long time yet.

"I hope the same goes for our own Colin McAdam, who has helped to take so much of the pressure off me at Rangers. As long as Colin is knocking them in, I can get on with my own game, and maybe knock in one or two more myself.

"And if we can help Rangers win something that will be even better."



Colin McAdam of Rangers.

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£

'How injuries have helped Wolves'

WITH the season at the halfway mark, Wolves are in no man's land in the League, with only the F.A. Cup and a possible U.E.F.A. Cup place to aim for. A far cry from last year when we were still involved in the League Cup and going well in the League.

This season has not been good for us. We were knocked out of the U.E.F.A. Cup and League Cup at the first time of asking, while our League form has been indifferent, although in recent weeks things have improved.

After our Cup knockouts we needed the injection of a new face, either a big-name transfer or a youngster making his mark. The management had done all they could to motivate the side verbally and when the Peter Reid deal fell through it seemed as if we'd have to carry on as we were before.

However, injuries and suspensions have forced team-changes and two young players have stepped in and the highest praise I can give both is that neither has let the side down at all.

Hugh Atkinson and John Humphrey have taken the chances and all they need to do is to keep playing as well as they have been to keep their places. They've made some of the older players look over their shoulder.

Consolidate

So while we won't win the League, it is important to consolidate during this transitional period, and the emergence of Hugh and John has given us the boost we needed.

The Christmas programme has given us something to look forward to: Liverpool away, Forest at home and then away to Manchester City.

I always enjoy playing at Anfield — I wish I could play in front of an atmosphere like that every time we visit opponents' grounds.

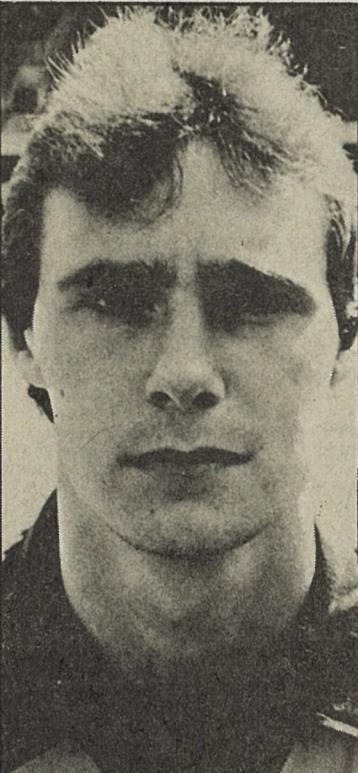
I'm one of the few players to have experienced victory at Anfield. It was in 1977 when Aston Villa were playing with a lot of confidence. Liverpool were on a long unbeaten run at that time, yet we won 2-1 and even scored their goal for them.

There can't be a harder place to win, though. Liverpool's record speaks for itself, although it doesn't bother me. Too many sides go to Anfield with an inferiority complex.

Wolves' record there isn't good. We've lost five times out of the last



Andy
Gray
WRITES
FOR YOU

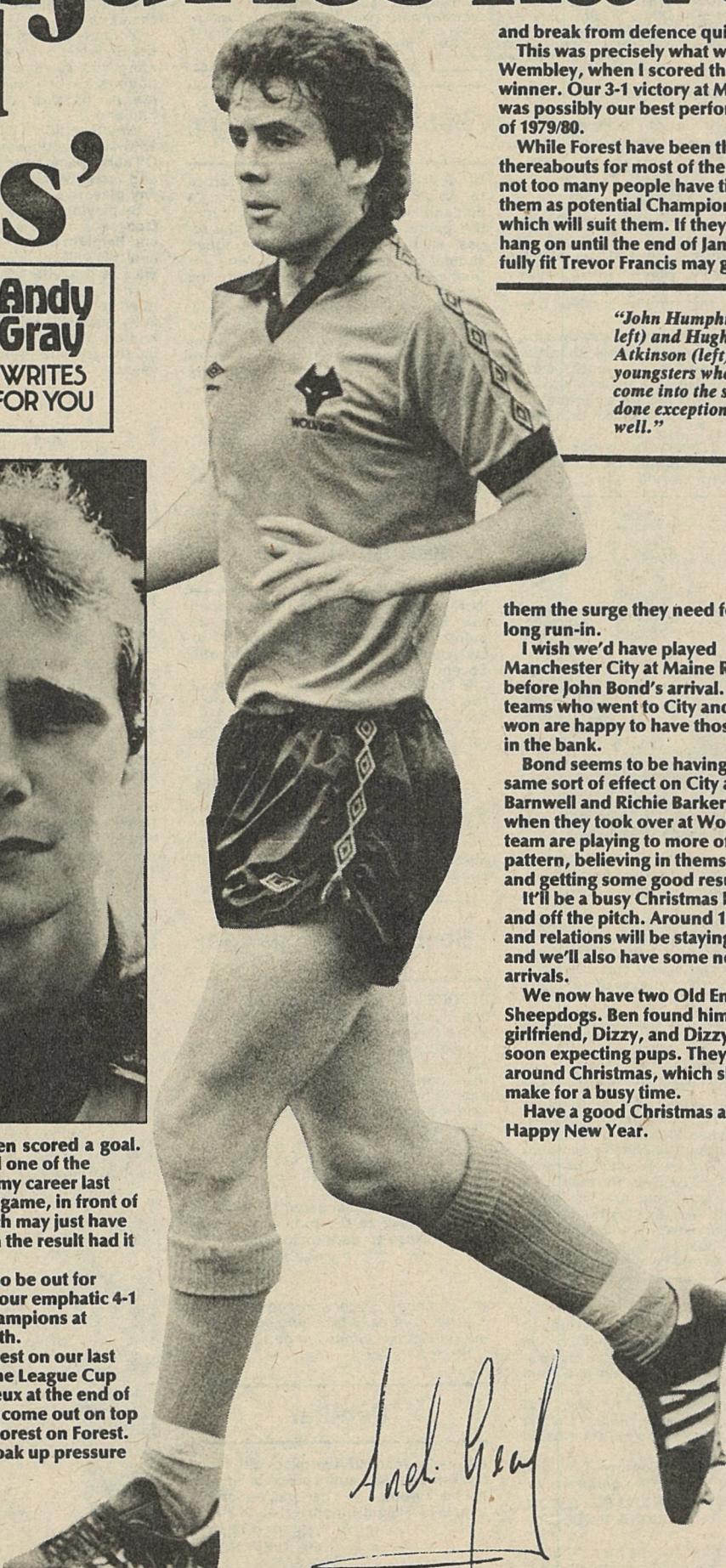


six and haven't even scored a goal.

Even so, I missed one of the easiest chances of my career last season early in the game, in front of The Kop, too, which may just have had some effect on the result had it gone in.

Liverpool will also be out for revenge following our emphatic 4-1 win against the Champions at Molineux last month.

We'd beaten Forest on our last two meetings, in the League Cup Final and at Molineux at the end of last season. We've come out on top because we did a Forest on Forest. Their secret is to soak up pressure



and break from defence quickly.

This was precisely what we did at Wembley, when I scored the winner. Our 3-1 victory at Molineux was possibly our best performance of 1979/80.

While Forest have been there or thereabouts for most of the season, not too many people have tipped them as potential Champions, which will suit them. If they can hang on until the end of January, a fully fit Trevor Francis may give

"John Humphrey (far left) and Hugh Atkinson (left) are two youngsters who have come into the side and done exceptionally well."

them the surge they need for the long run-in.

I wish we'd have played Manchester City at Maine Road before John Bond's arrival. I bet the teams who went to City and drew or won are happy to have those points in the bank.

Bond seems to be having the same sort of effect on City as John Barnwell and Richie Barker did when they took over at Wolves. The team are playing to more of a pattern, believing in themselves and getting some good results.

It'll be a busy Christmas both on and off the pitch. Around 15 friends and relations will be staying with us and we'll also have some new arrivals.

We now have two Old English Sheepdogs. Ben found himself a girlfriend, Dizzy, and Dizzy was soon expecting pups. They're due around Christmas, which should make for a busy time.

Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £10 for the Star Letter — £4 for every other published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT! All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

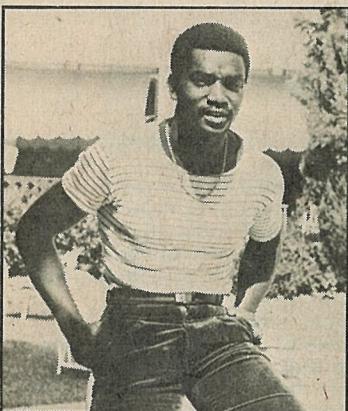
This week's Star Letter comes from H. S. Dhillon of Smethwick, West Midlands, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

RIDICULOUS CUNNINGHAM

So Laurie Cunningham reckons that English players are ridiculously underpaid. Maybe the Spanish sun has got to him. Certainly he can afford to say that now he is raking it in with Real Madrid.

The majority of English First Division players earn more in a week than the average man earns in two months, and I would like to see Laurie Cunningham convince the two million unemployed people in this country that footballers deserve more money.

We are the people who pay these inflated wages through the turnstiles, and I for one would object to an



increase in admission prices just to boost the wage packets of players who don't even earn their money as it is.

Compared to the money Cunningham (above) is getting in Spain, English players are underpaid. But that does not mean they deserve any more, and few footballers in this country have cause for complaint.

Thanks, Tommy

IT SEEKS an opportune moment to express, through you magazine, my sincere best wishes to Tommy Docherty. I have followed the English game for many years, and have always been an admirer of the Doc. He may be a controversial character, and he is the first to admit that he has made mistakes during his years in management.

While at Queens Park Rangers, I wrote many letters to him but, living in South Africa, I never really expected him to reply.

He was hardly going through the happiest of times when I was writing to him, yet he always managed to find time to respond to my letters personally, sending me programmes and team pictures as well.

People may criticise The Doc, but they cannot fault him on the fact that he cares for the people who matter most in football, the fans.

Happy Christmas, Tommy. I for one hope you are back in the game soon.

WADE BATTESON,
JOHANNESBURG.

It is nice to hear that a man so beset by problems can still find time to boost the image of the game. I, too, would like to wish The Doc the best of luck.

Correct decision

FOR the second time in a matter of months, Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw has voiced his opinion concerning Chris Hughton's decision to play for the Republic of Ireland rather than England.

Not only is he criticising Hughton, but the Republic of Ireland as well. Considering the relative merits of the two nations, I would say that the Republic are progressing at least as well as England.

Why shouldn't Chris want to play with such world-class players as David O'Leary, Mark Lawrenson, Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton? Do England have any players to match them?

By playing for the Republic, Chris will face such nations as Holland, France and Belgium both in Dublin and abroad, and this will serve as invaluable experience at this vital stage of his career.

There is no going back on his decision now, so why doesn't Keith Burkinshaw keep quiet. If Chris Hughton can maintain his current form he will be pulling on the famous green jersey for many years.

NEIL O'BRIEN,
CO. CORK.

Certainly Hughton will benefit from facing some of Europe's top sides in the World Cup Qualifying games. But whether he will be going to Spain to face the world's best is a different question.

Don't forget Ray

I WAS saddened to read in a recent issue of SHOOT that Liverpool midfielder Ray Kennedy considers his England career to be over.

Who can blame Ray for taking such a pessimistic view considering the circumstances? During the European Championship, he was one of the few England players to perform well, and with better luck could have scored a vital goal against the Italians when his shot struck the bar.

There are a number of younger players forcing their way into the international reckoning, and Ray's experience would be vital in helping to develop these newcomers with an eye to the 1982 World Cup Finals.

For Ray to be discarded by England at this stage would be a terrible waste of a good, honest professional who has been a credit to the game wherever he has played.

NEAL COOK,
BRISTOL.

I am sure that Ray (below) still figures prominently in Ron Greenwood's plans, but now he must prove that he is more worthy of a place than Trevor Brooking and Graham Rix.



Pen-Pal

I AM a 20-year-old Australian girl. I love English football and Liverpool in particular. I would like a pen-pal, preferably a male Liverpool supporter, aged 20-22.

THERESE MINER,
405 MAIN ROAD,
GLENDALE, 2285,
NEW SOUTH WALES,
AUSTRALIA.

ASK THE EXPERT

Send your letters to: Ask the Expert, SHOOT!, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £2 for every letter published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. When writing, please state size: small, medium or large. While every letter is read, our Expert regrets he cannot reply to individual letters personally.

Christmas leaders

How many of the clubs leading their League table last Christmas went on to become Champions at the end of the season?

RON BENNETT,
HEREFORD.

Well, Ron, looking at the tables after last Boxing Day's games, I see only Liverpool — of the four 1979-80 English Champions — were actually leading the table then.

But the others were all very handily placed — Leicester in fourth position; with Grimsby lying second, and Huddersfield third.

What a later slump, though, for Sheffield United. Then they were a point clear at the top of the Third Division — yet, at the end of the season, could manage no better than twelfth.

Twice a day

I've been told that, in the past when there was Christmas Day football, a famous player played in two games. Is this true?

TED CONNORS,
SUNDERLAND.

It's perfectly true, Ted. There were a couple of them — and, what's more, they each played for two different clubs!

It was on Christmas Day 1940 — during the Wartime footballing which "guest" players from other clubs were permitted — and they were both famous English international forwards, at that.

Tommy Lawton played for his own club, Everton, against Liverpool in the morning — and then made a hurried exit to turn out for neighbouring Tranmere against Crewe.

And, on that same Christmas Day, Len Shackleton was on similar "over-time" — playing for both Bradford and Bradford City.

'Keeper Webb

I'm a great fan of Bournemouth's Dave Webb, and would like to know if it's true that one Christmas he played a whole game in goal?

BRIAN HUNTER,
BOURNEMOUTH.

Yes, it is, Brian — and it happened on Boxing Day 1971 when Chelsea were entertainers Ipswich.

Both Chelsea's international 'keepers, Peter Bonetti and John Phillips, failed late fitness tests — and, despite a frantic S.O.S. motorway dash, third-choice Steve Sherwood failed to arrive in time for the kick off.

So in-between the posts the versatile and ever-willing Webbie volunteered to go, and kept a clean-sheet while his team-mates were grabbing a couple of goals at the other end.

50 goals

Is it true that one Boxing Day produced more than 50 goals in the English First Division alone?

JANE SHAW,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Certainly is, Jane. In fact, well above that figure.

It happened in 1963, when ten First Division games totted-up no less than 66 goals — that's an average of more than six and a half per match.

Hightspot for Fulham (and "lowscore" for Ipswich) was the 10-1 home scoreline at Craven Cottage.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

THERE is every chance that baby girls born in the Manchester area this Christmas and in the New Year will be named Louise. And if Louise is not first choice, then mothers and fathers will probably settle on Samantha.

Baby boys bouncing into the world over the holiday period are likely to be christened Jamie.

Louise, Samantha and Jamie are the names of the moment in the North, especially for the thousands who pour through the turnstiles every other Saturday to support Manchester United.

"Louise" gets the vote for no

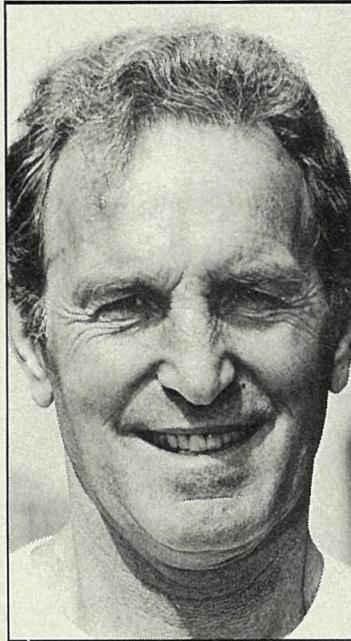
BY BILL DAY

from the heady days of Denis Law, Bobby Charlton and George Best.

"They've followed us ever since," says 23 year-old Hazel Thompson, who assists David Smith, 34, Chairman of the Supporters Club.

"They still remember the 'Busby Babes', who obviously captured the imaginations of our followers all over the world. They send pictures of themselves and establish pen pals with our fans."

Manchester United's players are among the most popular in the



20,000. One hundred and fifty fans support them from South Africa. More than 200 keep in touch from Australia and New Zealand, and 500 registered supporters pick-up newspapers in France, Germany, Italy and other European countries to read the English First Division results on Sunday morning.

No fewer than 50 luxury coaches leave Old Trafford ferrying passengers to away games, and the support United receive at home conflicts with the theory that soccer is losing its public appeal.

Fifty five thousand watched the Manchester City game and the 50,000 barrier was broken again on the visits of Everton, Middlesbrough, and Sunderland.

Manchester United's efforts to combat the threat of hooliganism are receiving the rewards their sterling efforts merit. Hundreds of the fans who have paid £1 to join the Supporters Club have thanked the club for the protection from brutality organised support encourages.

UNITED are still tops with the fans

other reason than it links the households of the area with United's Scottish international hero Lou Macari.

"Samantha" in honour of Northern Ireland international and midfield star Sammy McIlroy.

"Jamie" is the most popular name for boys for a slightly more obscure reason. It just so happens to be the Christian name of Martin Buchan's son.

That Manchester United's popularity should have a bearing on the ink content of birth certificates is indicative of the remarkable following the First Division club has generated.

On a sunny day in August, the postman dropped an envelope through the front door at Old Trafford. It contained a card bearing the words: "Happy Christmas from member 02959. Sorry it's a bit early."

Compliments

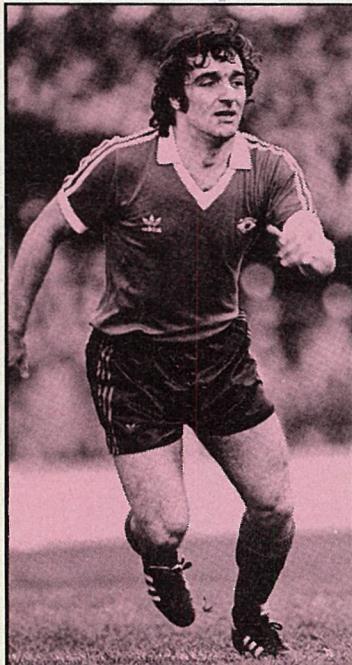
Whilst most of the working population of Britain was taking it easy on their annual holiday, a Manchester United supporter living in Yorkshire had decided it was necessary to send the compliments of the season.

The Gateshead branch of the Manchester United Supporters Club travel to every United match home or away, spending a large chunk of their weekly wage.

When United played a League game at Brighton in November, the Gateshead branch stood shoulder to shoulder in driving rain. They had left their homes in the North-East at 9.0pm, the day before the match.

Fans from the Torbay area travel to every home match, leaving at 5.30 on Saturday mornings.

At least three times a season, a group of 30 fans fly from Malta to attend games and there is a vast interest in United from places as far away as Thailand, a following in a remote outpost which stems



game because of their courtesy in dealing with the fan worship they receive. The best loved player on United's books? Gary Bailey, the club's England Under-21 and B international goalkeeper.

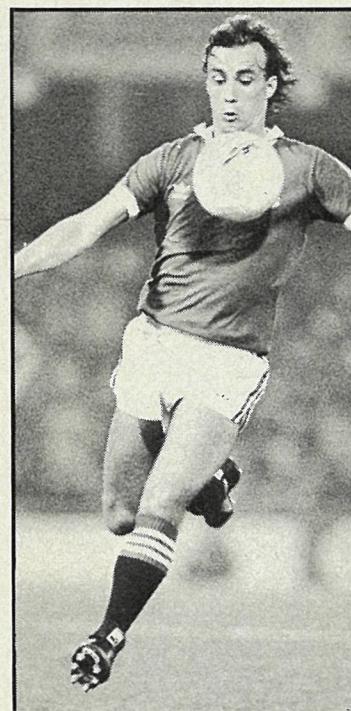
Hazel Thompson explains why Bailey receives mass adulation from the terraces. "Very simple really. Gary goes out of his way to help people by attending private functions. Nothing is too much trouble for Gary."

The fans demonstrated their support for Bailey by electing him "Junior Player of the Year" at the end of the 1979-80 season.

Joe Jordan and Steve Coppell are two other immensely popular players, Jordan the holder of the club's "Player of the Year" title.

Manchester United have 67 Supporters Club branches in Britain and a total membership of

Manager Dave Sexton (above), Lou Macari (left) and Sammy McIlroy (below) have all won the admiration of the fanatical Manchester United supporters throughout the world.



To travel with the Supporters Club means a peaceful journey, a great comfort to parents who worry about the safety of their children.

The brilliance of United's organisation on match days would be of interest to any Industry Minister.

The club's executive restaurant suite has just been extended to cater for 1,000 diners. Forty six waiters and waitresses move busily between the dining tables. Corks explode from at least 60 bottles of champagne; dozens of bottles of wine are consumed; 1,000 sandwiches are devoured in the executive restaurant and the same number of sausage rolls, pies and cakes are eaten by hungry fans.

Jim Barker, the restaurant manager, who has watched the club since 1932, says: "Our meals are as good as any hotel in Britain." He is also responsible for supervising players' meals. Favourite lunch for players? Steak. "It's nutritious and not fattening," says Jim.

Jim Barker is a small but vital cog in a club which runs its affairs as successfully as any industry in this country.

Small wonder Dave Sexton and his players find no difficulty in playing fast, attractive football to the delight of their adoring fans.

HONOURS

First Division Champions: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1951-52, 1955-56, 1956-57, 1964-65, 1966-67.

Runners-up: 1946-47, 1947-48, 1948-49, 1950-51, 1958-59, 1963-64, 1967-68, 1979-80.

Second Division Champions: 1935-36, 1974-75.

Runners-up: 1896-97, 1905-06, 1924-25, 1937-38.

F.A. Cup Winners: 1909, 1948, 1963, 1977.

Runners-up: 1957, 1958, 1976, 1979.

League Cup, Semi-Finalists: 1969-70, 1970-71, 1974-75, 1978-79.

European Cup Winners: 1967-68.

Last season's record: First Division: Runners-up. F.A. Cup:

Third Round. League Cup: Third Round.

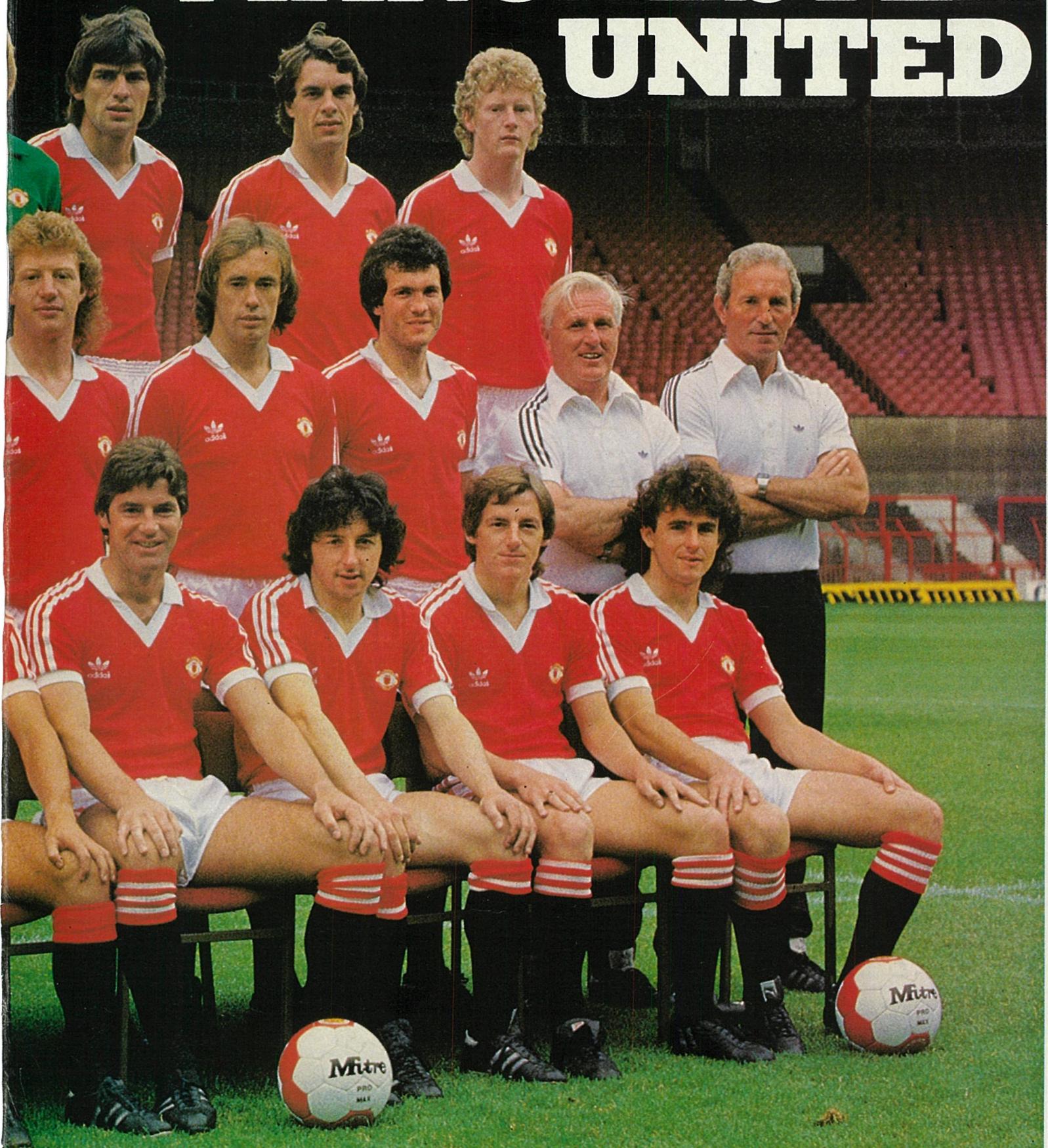
BACK ROW (left to right): Kevin Moran, Gordon McQueen, Paddy Roche, Gary Bailey, Nikola Jovanovic, Joe Jordan, Ashley Grimes.

MIDDLE ROW: Laurie Brown (physio), Ray Wilkins, Mike Duxbury, Jimmy Greenhoff, Jimmy Nicholl, Sammy McIlroy, Chris McGrath, Tommy Cavanagh (asst. manager), Dave Sexton (manager).

FRONT ROW: Tom Sloan, Andy Ritchie (now Brighton), Lou Macari, Martin Buchan, Mickey Thomas, Steve Coppell, Arthur Albiston.



MANCHESTER UNITED





Craig Johnston, leading the Middlesbrough revival.

WITH the 1980-81 season now at the halfway stage, the time is appropriate to take stock of the latest young players to make their mark on our national game.

There is nothing more exciting in football than the advent of a young player, rich in promise.

Too often, of course, that potential never materialises. The young rose sometimes随风摇曳 rather than blossoms — but there has to be hope for the future if our beloved game is to survive, and here we take a look at just some of the young men who we believe can go on to keep England in the forefront of the world game.

Aston Villa's climb up the First Division table is no fluke, indeed it is more the fruition of good long-term planning by that knowledgeable manager Ron Saunders.

He has gradually promoted a host of young players, no longer out of their depth in the competitiveness of the First Division, and strikers Gary Shaw and Tony Morley, in particular, look better players than they did 12 months ago.

Morley is no chicken, of course, having served Preston and Burnley before arriving at Villa Park, but Shaw is still a very young man with a big future ahead of him.

He possesses that vital quality for any top player, speed. He also knows the quickest route to goal, and has benefited enormously from the arrival of Peter Withe.

Last season Shaw arrived with the millstone round his neck of being an England youth player with a reputation for scoring goals. There is a world of difference scoring goals in a youth team and in the First Division. Too often he had to take the stick which Withe is now shouldering, and the result was a loss of confidence.

Despite the handicaps, he still finished as Villa's leading scorer in all matches with 12, and the signs are now good that he will soon overhaul that figure this season.

There's a similar story at Everton, though young Steve McMahon had never played first team football before the opening day of this League season.

He represents the perfect example of a young man finding his feet quickly, because those around him are doing well. Everton's enormous improvement can be put down to the revitalised Asa Hartford, the emerging Joe McBride, the goal-scoring touch of Peter Eastoe — and arrival of McMahon.

Ambition

At one time it seemed the slight, little lad from Liverpool would never realise his ambition of making the big time with Everton. He was even told he wouldn't make it and was advised to look for another career.

He buckled down to the job of

proving the doubters wrong, filled out physically, and is now delighting the staff at Goodison with his polished displays in the Everton first team.

Gordon Lee reckons the boy who has slotted like a glove into the midfield could go all the way to the top, and certainly the club is glad he never found that other job they wanted him to take.

If you're looking for the man

season than Manchester United, not so much on the pitch, but in the treatment room. It's been full all season with a constant stream of international casualties. Joe Jordan, Gordon McQueen, Ray Wilkins and Lou Macari have all been in there.

But the one bright spot resulting from all this has been the chance to blood a youngster by the name of Mike Duxbury. Of slender build,

These exciting are destined **ENGLAND'S STARS OF**

who could just be keeping goal for England in the World Cup in the fullness of time we suggest you look no further than Leeds United and John Lukic.

Shilton and Clemence can't go on for ever, and those in the know reckon this son of a Polish immigrant is a better bet than Manchester United's Gary Bailey.

All that can change of course, but Lukic, who hadn't played First Division football until last October, has quickly come to terms with life at the top, and has won unreserved praise from several First Division managers.

Terry Venables and John Bond are among those who predict that Lukic will be the next great England goalkeeper. He has all the makings — a good pair of hands, agility, lightning reflexes, positional sense and a first class attitude to the game.



Steve McMahon has fitted in well at Everton.

Establish

You have to be good to get a game at Anfield, and after six years of trying to establish himself little Sammy Lee has finally forced his way through in his own right.

With players of the calibre of Graeme Souness, Ray Kennedy, Terry McDermott and Jimmy Case to oust, Lee has been faced with a mountain to climb, but he's never given up hope, and this season at last Bob Paisley has rewarded the little man with a regular berth.

No one, of course, ever takes a place for granted at Liverpool and Lee will not be kidded into believing he has made it just yet, but he will have appreciated the opportunity. He can score goals, effectively provide the link between defence and attack and win the ball, three of the most necessary qualities of playing in the best team in the country.

No club has suffered more this

and not particularly tall, Duxbury is none the less a fierce competitor who strikes the ball well and is not afraid of getting into the action where it hurts most. He looks to have a good future, if he can weave his way into the pattern of a side studded with internationals.

It's good to report that Middlesbrough are at last winning some congratulations for actually entertaining people.

One of the young men who is slowly but surely helping to change the image is Craig Johnston, the dark, bushy-haired young globetrotter who seems to have the qualifications for the United Nations, but has eventually opted to play for England — with Ron Greenwood's blessing.

Any midfielder with the ability to score goals from deep positions is a bonus. Johnston has that gift and his sparky style of play has made him a very firm favourite at

Ayresome Park.

Over at Newcastle Chris Withe, younger brother of Villa striker Peter, is making a name for himself at left-back!

"You'll hear a lot more of this youngster in the future," declares his boss Arthur Cox.

There seems to have been a dearth of players in this country who actually run at players and take them on. Ask any defender

have got any opportunities at all.

Mills still has much to learn, but brought along steadily by the Clough-Taylor consortium he's bound to benefit.

Another youngster making an impact is Stoke's Adrian Heath, who first came into the side in the promotion season of 1978-79, for two games, but who blossomed last season, and has further enhanced his reputation this.

youngsters to become... **SUPER, THE 80's**

who he most hates to play against and he will tell you players that run at him.

Peter Barnes does it, Kevin Keegan does it and now Nottingham Forest have a lad by the name of Gary Mills who isn't averse to having a go. Mills was a sprinter in his athletics days at school in Northampton, and his pace has carried him past many an opponent this season.

First team chances have been limited because of the size of the Forest squad and it could be argued that if Trevor Francis hadn't been hobbling about almost since he joined the club from Birmingham, he wouldn't

After disappointing us all last term West Bromwich Albion are bent on proving they didn't flatter to deceive after all.

Now that Albion are back in business they've found room for a coloured youngster called Remi Moses, and he's a real little bundle of busy and energetic fun. That's not to say he isn't skilful either, and no doubt if Albion do go right to the top someone will say Moses led them to the promised land.

In the lower Divisions there are lads like Dave Crown (Brentford), Gary Mabbutt (Bristol Rovers), Peter Beardsley (Carlisle), Paul Walsh (Charlton), Alan Birch (Chesterfield), who have all given the first signs that they can go right to the top of their profession. Let's hope they do.



Remi Moses has shown tremendous potential at WBA.



LEFT: Sammy Lee has at last established himself with Liverpool.

RIGHT: Gary Shaw, Aston Villa's talented young goalscorer.



LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Saturday, November 15

Second Division (continued)

WREXHAM (0) 0
CHELSEA (1) 4 (Britton, Driver, Walker, Lee)
7,953
Wrexham: Davies, Salathiel, Whittle, Davis, Cegielski, Carrodus, Fox, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil, Arkwright (Buxton).
Chelsea: Borota, Wilkins, Rose, Bumstead, Droy, Nutton (Driver), Britton, Hutchings, Lee, Walker, Rhoades-Brown.
(Postponed: Bolton v. Notts Co., Swansea v. Watford.)

Third Division

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Entwistle)	
SWINDON (0) 1 (Mayes)	3,758
BRENTFORD (0) 0	
CHARLTON (0) 1 (Shaw)	8,180
FULHAM (0) 1 (O'Driscoll)	
ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Fern)	4,011
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Westwood)	
EXETER (1) 5 (Delve, Kellogg 3, Rogers)	3,725
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 2 (Kindon, Brown)	
CHESTERFIELD (0) 0	12,828
HULL (1) 3 (Edwards, Marwood, Roberts (G))	
MILLWALL (0) 1 (Chatterton pen)	3,210
NEWPORT (0) 1 (Tynan pen)	
BURNLEY (2) 2 (Hamilton, Taylor)	5,370
OXFORD (0) 1 (Cooke)	
CHESTER (0) 0	2,526
PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Kemp)	
COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Bremner)	4,905
PORTRUSH (0) 0	
BARNESLEY (1) 1 (Riley)	14,732
SHEFF UTD (1) 2 (Kenworthy 2 (1pen))	
CARLISLE (2) 2 (Staniforth, Bannon)	11,031
WALSALL (2) 2 (Paul 2)	
READING (1) 2 (Williams, Webb)	3,583

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (0) 0	
SCUNTHORPE (0)	2,512
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Moore)	
YORK (0) 1 (Clements)	2,203
BRADFORD (1) 2 (Watson 2)	
WIMBLEDON (0) 0	3,327
DONCASTER (1) 2 (Hale, Flanagan)	
PORT VALE (0) 0	2,422
HARTLEPOOL (1) 3 (Hogan, Houchen 2)	
WIGAN (0) 1 (Houghton)	5,020
MANSFIELD (0) 0	
HALIFAX (0) 1 (McIlwraith)	2,561
NORTHAMPTON (0) 2 (Denyer, Phillips)	
DARLINGTON (1) 2 (Walsh, Stalker)	1,656
PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Kellock)	
LINCOLN (0) 0	5,817
SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Cusack pen)	
BURY (0) 0	4,312
TORQUAY (0) 1 (Jones)	
CREWE (0) 0	1,858
Postponed: Rochdale v. Stockport, Tranmere v. Hereford.	

Scottish Premier

ABERDEEN (0) 2 (Strachan, Bell)	
PARTICK (0) 1 (O'Hara)	10,000
Aberdeen: Leighton, Rougvie, Considine, Watson, McLeish, Miller, Strachan, McCall, McGhee, Scanlon (Hewitt).	
Partick: Rough, Doyle, Lapsley (McDonald), Campbell (Torrance), Welsh, Whittaker, Park, O'Hara, Clark, Watson, Jardine.	
AIRDRIE (0) 1 (McGuire)	
CELTIC (3) 4 (Aitken, McGarvey, Nicholas, McAdam)	15,000

AIRDRIE: Martin, Erwin, Anderson (G), Anderson (N), Rodger (McCulloch), McKeown, Walker, McCluskey (Russell), Gordon, McGuire, Clark.

Celtic: Bonnar, McGrain, Aitken, McAdam, Reid, McCluskey, Provan, Weir, Burns, Nicholas, McGarvey.

DUNDEE UTD (1) 2 (Dodds, Sturrock)

ST MIRRREN (0) 0 5,000

Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Holt, Kopel, Phillip, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Gibson, Pettigrew (Payne), Sturrock, Dodds.

St Mirren: Thomson, Abercrombie, Beckett, Richardson, Copland, Hislop, Bone, Sommer, McDougall, Weir.

MORTON (0) 2 (McLaughlin, Rooney)

HEARTS (1) 2 (Conn, O'Connor) 3,500

Morton: Baines, Hayes, Orr, McLaughlin, Holmes, Rooney, Cochrane, Tolmie, Thompson, Ritchie, Hutchinson (McNeil).

Hearts: Brough, Hamilton, Liddell, Shields, Robinson, Masterton, MacDonald, Gibson, Conn, O'Connor.

RANGERS (1) 2 (Johnston, Jardine)

KILMARNOCK (0) 0 16,000

Rangers: McCly, Jardine, Forsyth, Jackson, Dawson, McLean, Bett, Redford, Johnston (McKay), MacDonald (Russell), Johnstone.

Kilmarnock: Brown, McLean, Clarke, McDicken, Robertson, Mauchien, Maxwell, Crandon (Clark), Houston, McBride, Bourke.

Scottish First

AYR (0) 1 (Forrest)

CLYDEBANK (0) 0 2,279

DUMBARTON (1) 2 (Donnelly, McGowan)

RAITH (1) 2 (Harris, Ballantyne) 700

FALKIRK (0) 0

DUNDEE (0) 3 (McGeachie, Sinclair 2) 3,500

HIBS (1) 3 (McLeod 2 (1pen), Rae)

HAMILTON (1) 3 (Graham, Wright, Howe) 4,000

MOTHERWELL (0) 2 (Irvine, McLeod)

BERWICK (0) 1 (Smith) 1,890

ST JOHNSTONE (1) 2 (Docherty, Salisbury)

DUNFERMLINE (3) 4 (McNaughton 3, McFarlane) 2,129

STIRLING (1) 4 (Steele, Kennedy, Gray 2)

EAST STIRLING (2) 2 (McCullie, McCraig) 500

Scottish Second

ALLOA (0) 0

MONTROSE (1) 4 (Murray 2, Robb, Wright) 950

ARBOATH (1) 3 (Hyslop (o.g.), Harley, Yule)

STRANRAER (1) 1 (Hood) 630

BRECHIN (2) 2 (Cormack, Campbell (l))

ALBION (0) 2 (Campbell, Ross) 400

CLYDE (2) 2 (Dempster, O'Neill)

MEADOWBANK (1) 1 (McCallan) 500

COWDENBEATH (0) 0

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 (Hancock) 500

EAST FIFE (0) 0

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 2 (Dixon, McCoy) 563

QoS (0) 1 (Robertson (G))

FORFAR (1) 1 (Laurie) 1,000

MONDAY, November 17

B International

ENGLAND B (0) 1 (Sunderland)

AUSTRALIA (0) 0 at Birmingham 3,292

England B: Bailey (G), Batson, Bailey (J), Williams, Gallagher, Wright, Sunderland, Mortimer, Regis, Cowans, Ward.

TUESDAY, November 18

European Under-21 Championship

ENGLAND (4) 5 (In-Albon (o.g.), Owen, Fashanu, Goddard, Hodgson)

SWITZERLAND (0) 0 at Ipswich 3,808

England: Woods, Ranson, Fenwick, Curbishley, Gilbert, Dyson, Goddard, Fashanu, Hodgson, Owen (Duxbury), Moses (Hilares).



England's Paul Mariner appeals for a corner as his shot at the Swiss goal goes narrowly over the crossbar in the recent World Cup game.

Anglo-Scottish Cup

(Semi-Final, Second-leg)

NOTTS COUNTY (2) 5 (O'Brien pen, Harkouk, Kilcline, Christie, Hooks)

KILMARNOCK (0) 2 (Street, McBride) 4,314

Notts Co win 7-3 on agg.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

World Cup

Group Four

ENGLAND (2) 2 (Tanner (o.g.), Mariner)

SWITZERLAND (0) 1 (Pfister) 70,000

England: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Robson, Watson, Mills, Coppell, McDermott, Mariner, Brooking (Rix), Woodcock.

Group Two

EIRE (4) 6 (Daly 2, Grealish, Robinson, Stapleton, Hughton)

CYPRUS (0) 0 29,000

Eire: Peyton, Hughton, Langan, Lawrenson, Moran, Daly, Grealish, Brady, Stapleton, Robinson, Heighway.

Group Six

PORTUGAL (0) 1 (Jordao)

NORTHERN IRELAND (0) 0 60,000

N. Ireland: Platt, Nicholl (J), Nicholl (C), O'Neill (J), Donaghy, Cassidy, McIlroy, O'Neill (M), Brotherston, Armstrong, Hamilton.

Group Three

WALES (1) 1 (Giles)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (0) 0 20,175

Wales: Davies, Price, Phillips, Ratcliffe, Nicholas, Flynn, Yorath, Thomas, Giles (Harris), Welsh, Charles.

Bell's Scottish League Cup

(Semi-Final, second-leg)

CELTIC (0) 0

DUNDEE UNITED (1) 3 (Pettigrew, Sturrock, Dodds) 21,000

United win 4-1 on agg.

DUNDEE (1) 3 (Williamson, Fraser, Sinclair)

AYR (1) 2 (Christie, McCall) 9,438

Dundee win 4-3 on agg.

Saturday, November 22

First Division

ARSENAL (2) 2 (McDermott, Stapleton)

EVERTON (0) 1 (Wright) 30,911

Arsenal: Jennings, Devine, Sansom (Getting), Talbot, O'Leary, Walford, Hollins, Sunderland, Stapleton, McDermott, Rix.

Everton: McDonagh, Gidman, Bailey, Wright, Stanley, Megson, McMahon, Eastoe, O'Keefe, Hartford, Gemmill, Dillon.

Tottenham: Daines, McAllister, Hughton, Miller, Lacy, Perryman, Ardiles, Archibald, Vila, Hoddle, Crooks.

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Johnston, Shearer)

WOLVES (0) 0 13,562

Middlesbrough: Platt, Nattrass, Bailey, Johnston, Ashcroft, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Hodgson, Shearer, Armstrong.

Wolves: Bradshaw, Humphrey, Hollifield, Daniel, Hughes, Brazier, Hibbert, Atkinson, Clarke, Richards, Palmer (Eves).

NORWICH (1) 1 (Goble)

SUNDERLAND (0) 0 15,198

Norwich: Baker, Bond, Downs, McGuire (Jacks), Headley, Powell, Barham, Fashanu, Royle, Paddon, Goble.

Sunderland: Turner, Whitworth, Bolton, Allardyce, Hindmarch, Buckley, Arnott, Dunn, Cooke, Robson (Brown), Cummins.

NOTTM FOR (0) 1 (Wallace)

IPSWICH (1) 2 (Brazil, Wark pen) 24,423

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Johnston, Shearer)

WOLVES (0) 0 13,562

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NOTTM FOR (0) 1 (Wallace)

IPSWICH (1) 2 (Brazil, Wark pen) 24,423

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Johnston, Shearer)

WOLVES (0

LINE-UPS... RESULTS...

Nottingham Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, Mills, Bowyer, Ward, Wallace, Robertson.

Ipswich: Sivell, Mills, McCall, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates.

SOUTHAMPTON (2) 2 (George, Channon)

LEEDS (1) 1 (Graham) 20,278

Southampton: Wells, Golac, McCartney, Pratt, Waldron, Nicholl, Moran, Channon, George, Holmes, Baker.

Leeds: Lukic, Greenhoff, Gray, Flynn, Hart, Cherry, Harris, Hird, Hamson, Sabella, Graham.

STOKE (0) 1 (O'Callaghan)

C. PALACE (0) 0 13,422

Stoke: Fox, Evans, Hampton, Dodd, O'Callaghan, Doyle, Bracewell, Heath, Chapman (Griffiths), Richardson, Munro.

Palace: Barron, Boyle, Fenwick, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Lovell, Francis, Walsh, Flanagan, Hilaire.

WEST BROM (1) 3 (Robson, Moses, Owen pen)

LEICESTER (0) 1 (Lineker) 17,752

West Brom: Godden, Batson, Cowdrill, Moses, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Owen, Barnes.

Leicester: Wallington, Carr (Henderson), Scott, Peake, May, O'Neill, Hamill, Lineker, Young, Wilson, Williams.



Phil Parkes of West Ham.

Second Division

BOLTON (0) 1 (Hoggan)

GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Stone) 9,031

Bolton: Poole, Graham, Burke, Gowling, Jones, Walsh, Reid, Whatmore, Carter, Kidd (Moore), Hoggan.

Grimsbys: Batch, Stone, Crombie, Waters, Wiggington, Moore, Brolly (Kilmore), Ford, Drinkell, Mitchell, Cumming.

BRISTOL ROVERS (1) 1 (McCaffery)

DERBY (1) 1 (Emson) 6,258

Bristol Rovers: Thomas, Gillies, Bater, McCaffery, Hughes, Cooper, Penny, Williams, Mabbatt, Bates, Barrett.

Derby: Jones, Emery, Buckley, Rammage Powell, Osgood, Clark, Swindelhurst, Biley, Wilson, Emson.

CAMBRIDGE (2) 2 (Lyons 2)

BRISTOL CITY (0) 1 (Mann) 4,922

Cambridge: Key, Donaldson, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Gibbons, O'Neill, Spriggs, Reilly, Lyons, Christie.

Bristol City: Cashley, Sweeney, Hay, Mann, Marshall, Whitehead, Tainton, Fitzpatrick, Garland, Ritchie, Pritchard.

CARDIFF (0) 1 (Buchanan)

LUTON (0) 0 6,064

Cardiff: Heeley, Jones, Thomas, Hughes, Pontin, Dwyer, Giles, Kitchen, Stevens, Ronson, Buchanan (Lewis).

Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Donaghy (West), Greaham, Saxby, Price, Hill, Stein, White, Aizlewood, Moss.

CHELSEA (0) 2 (Lee, Walker)

SHEFF WED (0) 0 24,947

Chelsea: Borota, Nutton (Driver), Rose, Bumstead, Droy, Chivers, Britton, Hutchings, Lee, Walker, Rhodes-Brown.

Sheff Wed: Bolder, Blackhall, Williamson, Smith, Shirlif, Sterland, Mirocevic (Pearson), Johnson, Leman, McCulloch, Curran.

NEWCASTLE (0) 0

WREXHAM (1) 1 (McNeil) 15,953

Newcastle: Carr, Carney, Johnson, Martin, Boam, Mitchell, Shinton, Wharton, Clarke, Shoulder, Hibbitt.

Wrexham: Davies, Sutton, Kenworthy, Davis, Cegelski, Carrollus, Fox, Arkwright, Edwards (Vinter), McNeil, Cartwright.

OLDHAM (0) 0

ORIENT (0) 1 (Parsons) 5,707

Oldham: Platt, Hoolickin, Blair, Keegan, Clements, Hurst, Heaton, Fletcher, Gardner, Palmer, Atkinson.

Orient: Day, Fisher, Roffey, Taylor (T), Gray, Parsons, Chiedozie, Moores, Mayo, Bowles, Taylor (P).

PRESTON (1) 3 (Naughton 2, Baxter)

Q.P.R. (0) 2 (Roeder, Neal) 6,725

Preston: Tunks, Westwell, McAteer, Burns, Baxter, Blackley, Bell, Taylor, Elliott, Naughton, McGee.

Q.P.R.: Woods, Shanks, Gillard, Waddock, Wicks, Howe, Roeder, King, Neal, Stainrod, Silkman.

SHEREWSBURY (0) 1 (Biggins)

NOTTS CO (0) 1 (Christie) 5,352

Shrewsbury: Wardle, King, Larkin, Petts, Griffin, Keay, Tong, Atkins, Biggins, Dungworth (Lindsay), Cross.

Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Kelly, Kilcline, Richards, McCulloch, Harkouk, Christie, Hunt, Hooks.

WATFORD (0) 1 (Blissett)

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (McKenzie) 13,436

Watford: Steele, Rice, Harrison, Blissett, Sims, Jackett, Taylor (Jenkins), Poskett, Armstrong, Train, Rostron.

Blackburn: Butcher, Branagan, Rathbone, Kendall, Keeley, Parkes, Brotherston, Stonehouse, Garner, McKenzie, Speight.

FA Cup

(First Round)

ADDLESTONE (1) 2 (Morris, Donaldson)

BRENTFORD (2) 2 (Booker, Funnell pen) 6,540

Played at Griffin Park, Brentford.

BARNET (0) 2 (Walker (o.g.), Hughes pen)

MINEHEAD (0) 2 (Chick, Brown) 1,529

BLYTH SPARTANS (1) 2 (Walker (P), Mutrie)

BURTON (1) 1 (Kent) 3,500

BOSTON (0) 0

ROTHERHAM (1) 4 (Taylor, Moore 2, Carr) 6,004

BURNLEY (0) 1 (Hamilton)

SCARBOROUGH (0) 0 7,789

BURSCOUGH (1) 1 (Perry)

ALTRINCHAM (2) 2 (Johnson, Rogers) 1,207

CHESTER (1) 1 (Birch)

BARNESLEY (1) 2 (Cooper, Banks) 7,135

COLCHESTER (1) 3 (Leigh, Allinson, Bremner)

PORTSMOUTH (0) 0 5,387

DARLINGTON (0) 0

BURY (1) 2 (Jakub, Butler) 2,912

ENFIELD (2) 3 (Holmes, Wade, Jennings)

WEMBLEY (0) 0 852

EXETER (2) 5 (Kellow 2, Pearson, Roberts (L), Hinshelwood (o.g.))

LEATHERHEAD (0) 0 4,607

FLEETWOOD (0) 0

BLACKPOOL (1) 4 (Entwistle, Morris, Hockaday 2) 10,897

GILLINGHAM (2) 2 (Price, Ford)

DAGENHAM (1) (Kidd) 4,390

GRAVESEND (0) 1 (Stonebridge)

ST ALBANS (0) 2 (Whitehead 2 pens) 1,659

HARLOW (0) 0

CHARLTON (2) 2 (Robinson, Hales) 6,073

HULL (0) 2 (Edwards 2)

HALIFAX (0) 1 (Firth) 4,024

KETTERING (0) 1 (Guy)

MAIDSTONE (0) 1 (Ovred) 2,880

KIDDERMINSTER (1) 1 (Wright)

MILLWALL (1) 1 (Williams (o.g.)) 2,500

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Turner)

GATESHEAD (0) 0 4,543

MANSFIELD (1) 3 (Parkinson 2 (2 pens), Cald-

nell)

ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Jones pen) 3,280

MOSSLEY (0) 1 (Mobley)

CREWE (0) 0 3,822

NORTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Phillips)

PETERBOROUGH (2) 4 (Robinson 2, Quow, Slack) 5,542

NORTHWICH VICTORIA (0) 1 (Denham)

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Stanton) 6,685

OXFORD (1) 1 (Foley)

ALDERSHOT (0) 0 4,153

PLYMOUTH (0) 2 (Kemp, Murphy)

NEWPORT (0) 0 6,719

PORT VALE (1) 4 (Bennett, Chamberlain (N) 2, Beech)

BRADFORD (1) 2 (Wood, Chapman) 4,022

READING (0) 1 (Earlies)

FULHAM (0) 2 (Davies, Mahoney) 7,495

SCUNTHORPE (1) 3 (Grimes, Green, Partridge pen)

HARTELEPOOL (1) 1 (Hampton) 5,165

SOUTHEND (0) 0

HEREFORD (1) 1 (Jones) 4,922

STOCKPORT 0

SHEFF UTD 0 7,179

SUTTON COLDFIELD (0) 0

DONCASTER (0) 2 (Dowd, Lally) 2,250

SWINDON (1) 3 (Mayes, Kamara, Lewis)

WEYMOUTH (1) 2 (Iannone, Dove pen) 5,477

TORQUAY (1) 2 (Weston, Cooper)

BARTON (0) 0 2,495

TRANMERE 0

YORK 0 2,687

WALSALL (1) 3 (Waddington, Buckley, Penn)

STAFFORD RANGERS (0) 0 6,898

WIGAN (0) 2 (Houghton 2)

CHESTERFIELD (2) 2 (Wilson, Green) 8,896

WIMBLEDON (2) 7 (Smith (M) 2, Hubbick 3, Cunningham, Cork)

WINDSOR & ETON (1) 2 (McCulloch, Hill) 3,087

WORKINGTON 0

CARLISLE 0 8,000

WYCOMBE (0) 0

BOURNEMOUTH (2) 3 (Massey, Morgan 2) 4,768

YEOVIL (0) 2 (Morrall, Ritchie)

FARNBOROUGH (0) 1 (Parkin pen) 2,396

Scottish Premier

CELTIC (0) 1 (McCluskey pen)

ST MIRREN (0) 2 (Richardson, Beckett) 16,000

Celtic: Bonnar, McGrain, Reid, Aitken, McDonald, McAdam, Weir, Sullivan, Nicholas (McCluskey), Burns, McCarver.

St Mirren: Thomson, Beckett, Abercrombie, Fulton, Copeland, Richardson, Stark, McCormack, Somner, Bone, Weir.

HEARTS 0

RANGERS 0 16,315

Hearts: Brough, Hamilton, Shields, Liddell, Hamilton (Moore), McVie, Robinson, Masterton, MacDonald, Conn, O'Connor, Gibson.

Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Dawson, Johnstone, Jackson, Bett, MacDonald, Redford, McAdam, McLean (Russell), Johnston.

KILMARNOCK (1) 1 (Miller (o.g.))

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (McLeish) 3,300

Kilmarnock: Wilson, McLean, Clarke, Robertson, Mauchlen, McDicken, Houston, Maxwell, McBride, Crandon, Street.

Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, Considine, Watson, McLeish, Miller, Strachan, McCall (Hewitt), McGhee, Jarvie, Scanlon (Hamilton).

MORTON (1) 3 (Tolmie, Ritchie 2 (1 pen))

AIRDRIE (0) 1 (Walker) 3,500

Morton: Barnes, Hayes, Holmes, McLaughlin, Orr, Rooney, Tolmie, Cochrane, Thomson, McNeil, Ritchie.

Airdrie: Morton, Erwin, Rodger, Anderson (G), Anderson (N), McKeown, Walker, McGuire, McCluskey, Gordon, Clark.

PARTICK (1) 2 (Clark, O'Hara)

DUNDEE UNITED (1) 3 (Pettigrew, Sturrock, Bannon)

Dundee United: Barnes, Hayes, Holmes, McLaughlin, Orr, Rooney, Tolmie, Cochrane, Thomson, McNeil, Ritchie.

Pattick: Rough, Doyle, Welsh, Lapsley, Campbell, Whittaker, Parke, O'Hara, Clark, Watson, Jardine.

Dundee United: McAlpine, Hope, Kopel, Phillip, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Gibson, Pettigrew, Sturrock, Dodd.

BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday, December 20th

Arsenal v Manchester United

THIS will be the 62nd League meeting of these two clubs in London and United have so far won 12 and drawn 11, including draws in their last two games at Highbury. Arsenal, have failed to score in any of their last three League games. The last Gunner to score against United was Alan Sunderland, who got both goals in a 2-0 victory at Old Trafford in February, 1979.

United have now had a run of 11 First Division games at Highbury since their last victory there in February, 1968.

United have never scored more than three goals on the Arsenal's ground in a League game, and their clearest win was way back in February, 1920 when they got three without reply.

Arsenal's biggest home win over Manchester United came in February, 1947 when the result was 6-2 with Ronnie Cooke getting a hat-trick.

W.B.A. v Everton

THESE two clubs first met in the Football League just over 92 years ago, so there is a big slice of soccer history behind their clashes. This will be their 61st League meeting in West Bromwich.

Everton have not collected many points at The Hawthorns in recent years, although when they have won they have done so decisively. For instance, in their last win there they scored six goals, four of them in the second-half, and ran out victors by six goals to two. That was the game in which Alan Ball scored four, including two penalties.

In their previous win (that is two wins in their last 15 visits) at The Hawthorns the score was 4-0 in their favour. This was in Everton's Championship-winning campaign of 1962-63.

Saturday, December 27th

Liverpool v Leeds

IT is nearly nine years since Leeds United last won a First Division game at Anfield, and on that occasion in January, 1972 Allan Clarke was one of their scorers in a 2-0 victory. This time Clarke will be trying to inspire his team's victory from the touchline, but he has no illusions about their difficult task in trying to dent the wonderful home record Liverpool have created this season.

Since that last win at Anfield Leeds have never scored more than a single goal in any game on this ground and have failed to score in six of their eight League visits.

Nottm Forest v Aston Villa

ASTON VILLA make their 39th League visit to Nottingham Forest where they will be hoping to stop the rot after three defeats in a row. Villa's last League win at the City ground was in 1974-75 when Ray Graydon (two) and Brian Little helped them to a 3-2 victory.

Nottingham fans cherish the memory of that 4-0 beating of Villa in April, 1979, while Aston Villa's biggest win on the Nottingham Forest ground is unlikely to be matched this Saturday. It was way back in December, 1903 when, although Forest scored first, the visitors won 7-3.

BERTIE AULD, mandatory Havana cigar clenched firmly between his teeth, was diplomacy personified.

He had just watched his new side Hibs during his first game in charge. It ended in a lacklustre 1-1 draw with Clydebank at New Kilbowie Park and Auld said: "Yes,

so shattered after the training stint that he went straight to bed when he got home!

Other players felt aches and pains in muscles they might have forgotten they possessed.

And Auld, the ringmaster, will be cracking the whip even harder and louder in the months to come as

Hibs have the potential to become one of the biggest clubs in Scotland again. The challenge motivated me. I left a Premier Division side for a First Division one and I'm sure I have made the right decision."

Only time will tell if Auld is right, but one thing is abundantly clear

... if he cannot get Hibs back on their feet then there must be doubts about anyone being equal to the task.

Auld, who has been joined at Easter Road by his Thistle assistant boss Pat Quinn, is very much his own man, ready to stand or fall by his own decisions.

He looks around Easter Road and says: "This club is too big to be out of the spotlight. I aim to rectify that."

No one is arguing.

THERE ARE HIGH HOPES FOR HIBS

there's a long way to go before things will be as I like them. It's going to be a hard slog for everyone concerned."

Auld's bland quotes came after he had spent 20 minutes with his players behind locked doors following the game. Reporters were swift to say afterwards that they doubted if no-nonsense Auld was quite as polite with his players!

The former Celtic midfield magician has never been slow to air his views. He is a straightforward man with logical ideas and he says: "I never ask a player to do something which I don't think is within his capabilities.

"There is no point in that. Soccer is basically a simple game and we should never lose sight of that. All the modern day jargon should never cloud the issue at hand."

With the same firm attitude Auld took his players for training the following Monday and after a rigorous, gruelling session, the Hibs squad realised what was in store for them in future.

One Hibs first team player was

he sets about putting Hibs back at the top of the soccer tree.

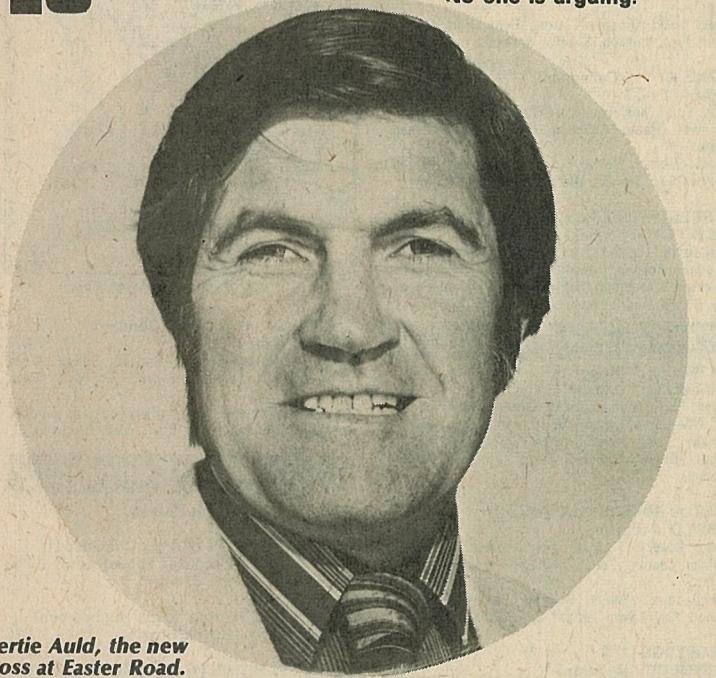
"The enthusiasm of chairman Tom Hart excites me," says Auld. "We think along the same lines. We both have similar ideas. We want Hibs back in the big-time and that's our main target."

Auld's pedigree as a manager is faultless. He took over Partick Thistle five years ago when they were in the First Division and heavily in debt.

He led them to promotion and when he left they were fourth in the Premier Division and with a healthy bank balance. Why, then, did he leave Firhill?

"It was the most difficult decision I have ever had to make," says Auld. "When I was driving back from Edinburgh to Glasgow to announce my decision to go to Hibs I felt awful.

"But it was time to move on and



Bertie Auld, the new boss at Easter Road.



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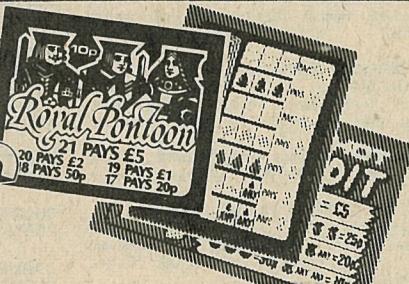
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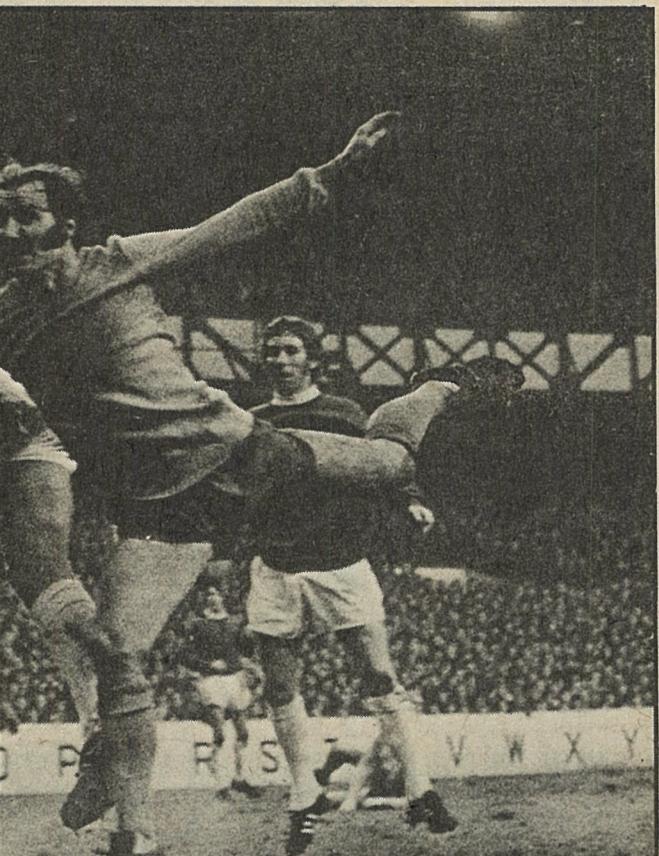
Still one of the most feared strikers in the game, Joe Royle's career started at Everton, where he was leading scorer in their League Championship success of 1970. One of the best headers of the ball around, here he scores against Huddersfield (right).



While at Everton, Royle also appeared in the 1968 F.A. Cup Final, but on this occasion his side were beaten 1-0 after extra-time by WBA (above).

From Everton, Joe moved to Manchester City (below), and scored 23 times in his 99 League appearances before leaving Maine Road in November, 1977.

While at Bristol City (right) Joe never really recaptured his touch in front of goal, but is now back on form with his latest club Norwich (far right).



Despite many injuries, Joe made six appearances for England between 1971 and 1977. His second was against Yugoslavia at Wembley, when he scored in a 1-1 draw (above).



Third and Fourth Division Round-Up



Martin Robinson scores for Charlton against Sheffield United.

CHARLTON CHEER

MILLWALL put another stain on the already tarnished image of football with their shabby treatment of George Petchey last month.

The Lions manager was "moved upstairs" to make way for a younger man to take charge of team affairs.

That's a polite way of saying he had lost his job. And Millwall don't even want to pay Petchey the full amount of compensation due to him.

What a way to treat one of the most honest and loyal men in the game. And what a way to repay a man who could have gone into the First Division with Queens Park Rangers soon after joining Millwall.

Rangers, looking for a manager at the time, offered the job to Petchey. But this highly principled man turned them down because he had just moved into The Den with a promise of doing his best for the club.

Solvent

Millwall conveniently 'forgot' they had ordered Petchey to sell the club's best young players — like Kevin O'Callaghan, who went to Ipswich — to keep the club financially solvent.

When they slumped towards the bottom of the Third Division a scapegoat had to be found. And they picked on a man who never had a realistic chance from the time he went there.

Fulham were another club to dump their manager when the going got tough. Bobby Campbell was shown the door as they joined

Millwall in the danger zone and "Supermac" Malcolm Macdonald was brought in to try and check the slide.

Charlton provided the only real bright note for London Third Division fans by zooming into a commanding lead at the top of the table.

They were relegated last season. And manager Mike Bailey and his players clearly intend to waste no time getting back to the Second Division.

And if Brentford were as good on their own Griffin Park pitch as they are on their travels they would have a good chance of joining them. It is silly points dropped at home that condemned them to a mid-table position at the end of last month.



Barnsley manager Norman Hunter.

Swindon found themselves facing a relegation battle. Smith was kicked out — and long serving full-back John Trollope appointed manager in his place.

Colchester and Gillingham, two other teams who figured among the front runners for most of last season, are struggling to make an impact this time.

Both have to work on slender budgets and could not find the cash to introduce the new faces necessary to avoid a reaction setting in.

In the Fourth Division Southend's surge to the top can have surprised nobody.

In view of the quality players they have they were expected to take the Division by storm and make amends for losing their Third Division status the previous season.

Manager Dave Smith knew the pressure was on him to produce the goods. He responded in the most emphatic way.

And it's good to see Lincoln tucked in behind them, making a spirited bid for a place in the Third Division.

Seems like that club have finally exorcised the ghost of Graham Taylor, who did a lot for them

Yorkshire pride

BUT while the London scene is bleak things in Yorkshire have seldom been better.

Barnsley, Rotherham and Huddersfield are all in a tight group challenging strongly for promotion — a tribute to the efforts of their young managers, Norman Hunter, Ian Porterfield and Mick Buxton respectively.

And coming up fast are Sheffield United — who look as if they are now getting things together well under new player-coach Martin Peters.

Jut above them are Chesterfield, who have clearly kept the impetus going following the loss of

manager Arthur Cox.

He went to Newcastle, with Frank Barlow being promoted to keep things in the family. In view of the way Chesterfield are going it looks like a wise choice.

Biggest surprise in the lower Divisions must be the demise of Swindon — who narrowly missed promotion last season, when they also reached the Semi-Finals of the League Cup.

Their slump meant that a third unfortunate manager — Bobby Smith — was also axed. So the Third Division has little to be proud of at the moment.

The panic button was pressed as

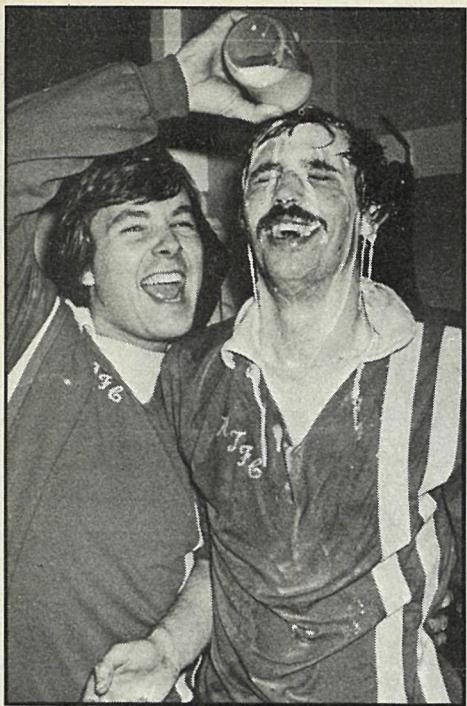
before being lured away to Watford.

And it's nice that current boss Colin Murphy is getting a few breaks at last, after his bitter experience at Derby.

And look who was tucked in just behind the top two. Hartlepool — a team you normally look for around the bottom of the table.

It must give encouragement to everybody to see someone like this enjoying a bit of success. Let's hope they keep it up.

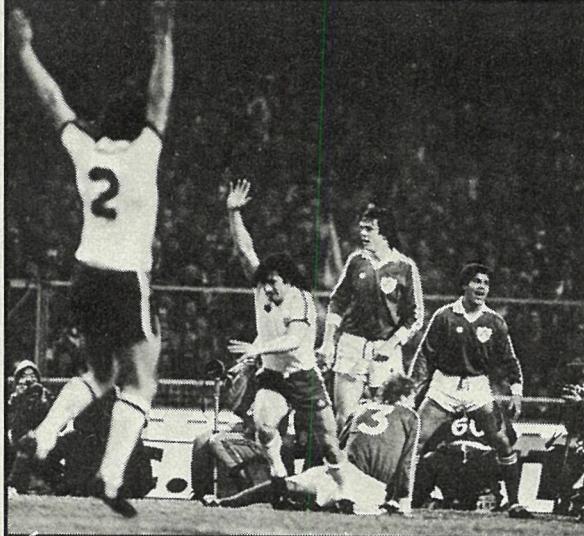
And let's hope all the teams we have seen producing fine football in the lower Divisions keep it up as well.



JANUARY: Non-League Harlow knock mighty Leicester out of the F.A. Cup. The matchwinning hero John Mackenzie celebrates with a milk shower (above).

FEBRUARY: England clinch their place in the European Championship Finals with a 2-0 victory over the Republic of Ireland at Wembley. Kevin Keegan scores both goals (right).

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1980

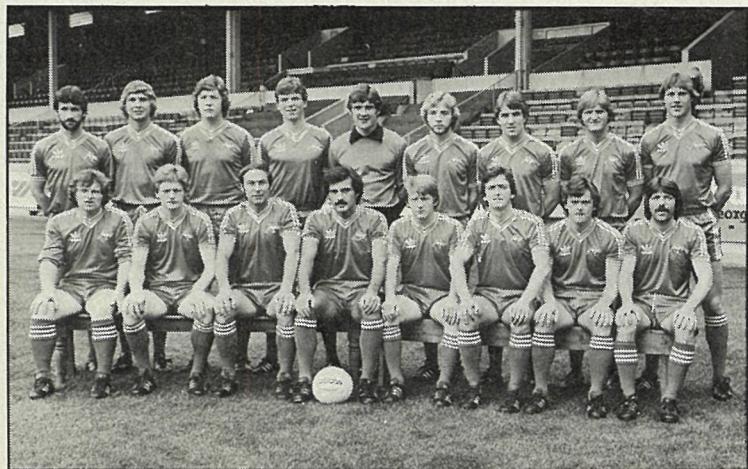
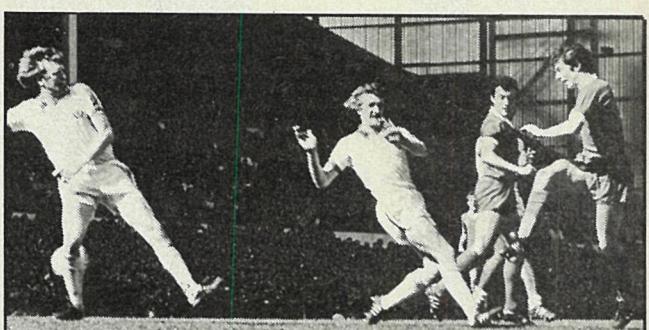


MARCH: Nottingham Forest's domination of the League Cup comes to an end. They lose 1-0 in the Final to a simple goal from Wolves' £1 million striker Andy Gray at Wembley (above).



APRIL: Liverpool's Terry McDermott (left) is elected as the Football Writers' Footballer of the Year. He had already been named PFA Player of the Year.

MAY: The season draws to an end, and the honours are handed out. Liverpool clinch the League title with a convincing victory over Aston Villa (top right). West Ham upset the form books when they beat Arsenal 1-0 in the F.A. Cup Final with this headed goal by Trevor Brooking (right). Aberdeen (below left) break the Old Firm dominance in Scotland when they clinch the League title. Super Nottingham Forest (below right) retain the European Cup when they beat Hamburger SV in the Final in Madrid.

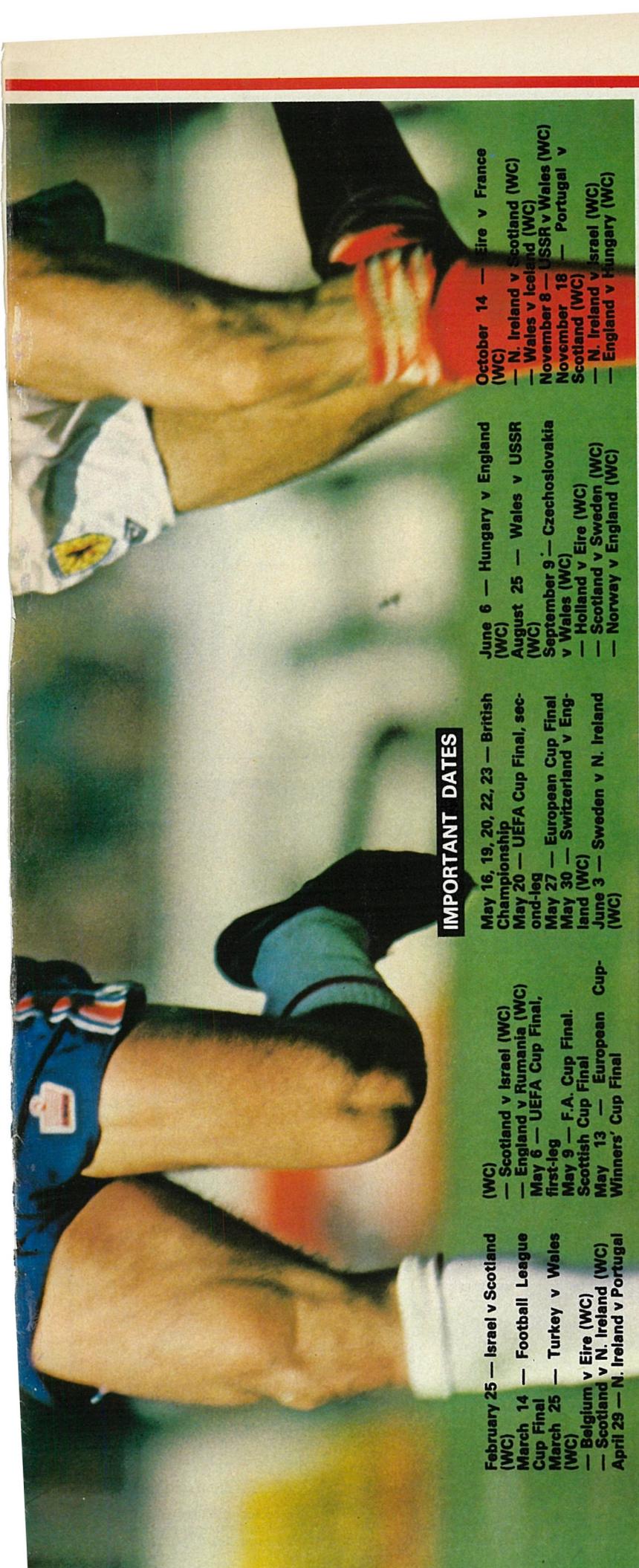


CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

**SHOOT SOCCER CALENDAR
1981**



Cut out carefully and join



IMPORTANT DATES

February 25 — Israel v Scotland (WC)	May 16, 19, 20, 22, 23 — British Championship
March 14 — Football League Cup Final	May 20 — UEFA Cup Final, second-leg
March 25 — Turkey v Wales (WC)	May 27 — European Cup Final
— Belgium v Eire (WC)	May 30 — Switzerland v England (WC)
— Scotland v N. Ireland (WC)	June 3 — Sweden v N. Ireland (WC)
April 29 — N. Ireland v Portugal	June 6 — Hungary v England (WC)
	August 25 — Wales v USSR (WC)
	September 9 — Czechoslovakia v Wales (WC)
	— Holland v Eire (WC)
	— Scotland v Sweden (WC)
	— Norway v England (WC)
	October 14 — Eire v France (WC)
	— N. Ireland v Scotland (WC)
	— Wales v Iceland (WC)
	November 8 — USSR v Wales (WC)
	— Portugal v Scotland (WC)
	— N. Ireland v Israel (WC)
	— England v Hungary (WC)

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 1980

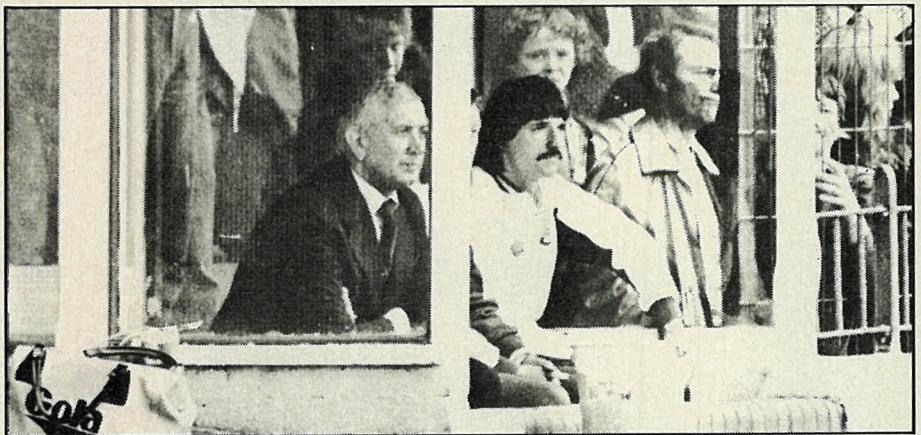
JUNE: West Germany win the European Championship. Horst Hrubesch scores both goals in the Final against Belgium (right).

JULY: Clive Allen (below) makes one of his few appearances for Arsenal during a close season tour of Scotland. The £1 million signing from Queens Park Rangers was later sold to Crystal Palace without playing a League game for The Gunners.



AUGUST: Liverpool win the Charity Shield (below), beating West Ham 1-0 in the showpiece opening to the season at Wembley.

SEPTEMBER: The first managerial casualty of the season when Jimmy Adamson (right) is shown the door at troubled Leeds United to make way for Allan Clarke to take charge at his former club.



OCTOBER: British Champions Northern Ireland make a good start to their World Cup campaign, and pave the path to Spain with a victory over Sweden (above).

NOVEMBER: England follow Northern Ireland's lead, beating Switzerland 2-1 at Wembley, helped by an own goal by Swiss defender Marcus Tanner (below).



DECEMBER: Malcolm Allison makes a dramatic return to the world of management when he takes over at his former club Crystal Palace (above).

BIG MAL'S LAST CHANCE

Allison's moves

Sept 5, 1927: Born Dartford, at Manchester City.
Kent.
Feb 1951: Joined West Ham after starting as centre-half with Charlton.
Oct 1958: Retired because of collapsed lung.
Mar 1963: Took over as manager of Southern League Bath City.
May 1964: Appointed manager Plymouth Argyle.
April 1965: Resigned Plymouth.
July 1965: Appointed assistant manager to Joe Mercer

at Manchester City.
Oct 1971: Appointed team manager Manchester City.
March 1973: Left Man. City to become team manager of Crystal Palace.
May 1976: Left Palace by mutual agreement. Joined Turkish club Galatasaray as adviser.
Nov 1977: Appointed coach Memphis (North American Soccer League).
Feb 1978: Sacked by Memphis, rejoined Plymouth as consultant.
May 1978: Appointed manager Plymouth.
Jan 1979: Left Plymouth to become assistant manager Man. City.
July 1979: Appointed team manager Man. City.
Oct 1980: Sacked by Man. City a week after being told by chairman Peter Swales: 'Carry on until the end of the season.'
Dec 1980: Allison returns to Crystal Palace.

MALCOLM Allison bounced back into the headlines when he was recently appointed team manager of First Division strugglers Crystal Palace.

Maybe we should cease to be surprised at anything Big Mal does anymore, and those who doubted his ability to recover from his biggest blow to date — his departure from Manchester City — will have to think again.

Allison's sudden and dramatic appointment by his old friend and Palace chairman Raymond Bloye came less than a month after Ernie Walley had been told he was in charge for the season.

When he appeared in the stand at Selhurst Park for Manchester City's League visit on November 29, there were rumours that things were stirring in the Palace boardroom. Allison claimed that he was just watching, but a day later came the bombshell announcing his appointment as joint team manager with Walley.

On the Monday it was announced that Walley had been demoted to number two.

"I told the board I would only come back as team manager," Allison said. "I have spoken with Ernie Walley, and he has said that he is quite willing to work with me."

Slipped

It will be Allison's second spell in charge of Palace. His first began in March, 1973, and by the time he departed three years later the club had slipped from the First to the Third Division.

"I know most of the players from my first spell with the club, and I know that there are some very fine footballers at Crystal Palace.

"This is the first time I have ever inherited a good team. When I left Palace, I had formed the basis of today's side. Similarly, I left Manchester City with some very exciting young prospects."

Now Allison faces an uphill struggle to revive Palace's fortunes. When he took over they had managed only ten points from 20 League fixtures, and relegation is staring them in the face.

"All I want to talk about at the moment is football. If people come to me and ask about internal politics, transfers or anything else they won't get an answer."

"We don't have much time to get things right, but I am convinced we can sort it out. I have seen the team a couple of times this season, and all that appears to be wrong is that they have needed someone to give them confidence and fresh ideas."

"I hope I can point them in the right direction once again."

Bloye insists that Allison's appointment was a unanimous decision in the boardroom, and the

supporters of the club have also welcomed the latest developments.

Ernie Walley has signed a new three-year contract, and seems set to remain as Allison's assistant. "Ernie is a very straight and honest guy who gets on with his job with the minimum of fuss. He is just the sort of man I need with me," Allison insisted.

Clearly Malcolm Allison cannot survive outside of football. He described the weeks following his departure from Maine Road as: "Some of the most depressing moments of my life."

There are not many characters in the game who can tread such a dangerous path as Malcolm Allison and still come up smelling of roses.

The old confidence and charm are back, and, just like a cat, Malcolm Allison has managed to land firmly on his feet once again. They say a cat has nine lives, but Malcolm Allison knows that he has used up a great many of those already. He cannot afford to fail at Crystal Palace.

CARRY ON ERNIE

WHILE Malcolm Allison was basking in the glory of his amazing return to First Division management, Ernie Walley quietly and uncomplainingly moved back into the anonymity which has surrounded the majority of his 32

years in the game. For the last 13 of those years he has worked tirelessly in the backroom at Crystal Palace, gaining precious little publicity nor seeking any.

A former brickyard worker from a family of 13 from Caernarvon, North Wales, Walley spent his playing career under the guidance of Arthur Rowe at Tottenham.

"Arthur Rowe taught me that football is a simple game, and I still believe that is true," he says.

"Arthur was a hard man to please, and so am I. I have never tolerated lazy players, and I have had to make some realise that hard work makes the world go round."

Malcolm Allison's appointment as Palace manager clearly took Walley by surprise. The team took seven points from his first five games in charge, but maybe his decision to axe Selhurst Park idols Vince Hilaire and Clive Allen proved too controversial for the fans to swallow.

'Prepared'

"Having worked in football for so long, I have become used to the knock-downs," he says. "I am always prepared for both sides of life's coin, and although I was disappointed to hand over control of the team to Malcolm, he will get full co-operation from me."

"If they had appointed anybody else, I'd have been very put out, but I know Malcolm very well, and I think we can do well together."

"When Malcolm first came to Palace he sacked virtually the entire backroom staff, but he kept me on. I like him very much, and have always got on exceptionally well with him."

"I have always been a firm believer in discipline, and I won't be changing my views simply because I no longer have the final decision."



Country before club

STRANGE situation at Greek club PAOK Salonika, where the Hungarian manager Gyula Lorant has dropped the club's three Greek internationals Gounaris, Kostikos and Jossifides for 'putting country before club' and not giving PAOK 100 per cent of their attention.

And still in Greece, referee Papadopoulos sustained a broken nose when he was punched by Katerini player Pavlidis. The player said he'd been ordered to flatten the referee by his skipper.

THE concept of a "Permanent Team" — i.e., a team that can be called and play at least once a month, under the direction of national coach Telé Santana, is coming under a heavy barrage of fire in Brazil.

The critics say the country is simply too big to have players getting together for just 72 hours with no proper training before they play international matches.

"It is better to have the players together for three months a year and leave them with their clubs the rest of the time," they say.

And right now manager Telé Santana seems to agree.

STRANGE incident during the Spanish Second Division match between Ceuta and Atletico Madrileno on an afternoon when a rainstorm hit the Spanish-owned city on the African coast. When the visitors equalised in injury-time, the crowd pelted the referee with ... several hundred umbrellas!



'No more Cruyffs' says Johnny Rep

AFTER a few seasons rebuilding, Saint-Etienne are once again setting the pace in France. And the man who tops the goal-chart is the flying Dutchman Johnny Rep, a familiar name with British fans.

Rep, once of mighty Ajax, twice World Cup Finalist with Holland, is now with 'Les Verts' after spells with Valencia and Bastia. He's under contract until 1982, yet in the summer, it looked as though his scalp would be included in the surgery at the club. Talk was rife throughout Europe that Rep would return to Ajax but their inability to meet Rep's wage demands meant the deal collapsed.

"Today, there is not very much money available in Dutch football," says Rep. "Things are difficult there so I signed to stay in France."

Johnny Rep is certain of one thing — at 28, he won't be making any immediate dash across the North Atlantic to join the gravy ship headed for American football. And he has some harsh words for those who have gone West in recent seasons, such as his World

Cup and former Ajax team-mate, Johan Neeskens.

"Neeskens' move to America was absurd; such a waste of his talent," said Rep. "He was much too young when he went over there and now you can see the problems he is having. Clearly, the football is not good enough and he is not happy."

Expires

"I have made contact with Vancouver and may go to America when my contract expires in 1982. By then, I shall be 31 and it would be alright. But I would not want to go any earlier. I could have gone to America this summer but turned down the chance."

"There are too many obstacles to playing in America, unless you are near the end of your career. You lose too much by going there, in fact you lose everything."

Rep casts a long face when the subject switches to modern day football, in comparison with great sides of the past such as Ajax, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich.

£50M. TO

MODERNISE WORLD CUP STADIUMS

SPANISH clubs are finding out that staging the 1982 World Cup Finals isn't cheap. The total bill for bringing the 17 stadiums up to scratch is estimated at £50,316,434 — an average of nearly three million pounds per stadium.

Grants from the Organising Committee will provide just over £15,000,000 but the clubs must provide the remaining £35,000,000! Here's a quick-run-down on how much the modification work will cost each of the 17 clubs:

La Coruña	£2,815,673	Málaga	£2,030,077
Sporting Gijón	£2,100,000	Real Betis (Sevilla)	£2,063,861
Real Oviedo	£2,090,592	Real Valladolid	£702,100
Celta (Vigo)	£3,393,320	Español (Barcelona)	
Real Zaragoza	£1,394,722		£1,801,520
Hércules (Alicante)	£1,673,350	Atlético Madrid	£1,330,000
Athletic Bilbao	£3,153,633	Sevilla	£1,530,200
Elche	£877,800	Barcelona	£2,535,456
Valencia	£1,020,000	Real Madrid	£3,710,560

Spain raised £3,500,000 towards the expenses of staging the 1982 World Cup through a special edition of the National Lottery. Complete tickets cost £35 apiece (most people buy fractions of a ticket, and the first prize was £280,000).

Photo shows San Mamés, Bilbao — the grimy, pollution-blackened stands reflect the personality of the industrial ports.



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"The standard now is not so good as it was three or four years ago throughout Europe, and three or four years ago, it was nowhere near as good as four years before that. West Germany is the only exception; it has quality players even today, but it is the only country in Europe.

"Bayern Munich should win the European Cup — if they don't, Liverpool could. I believe it will be one or the other. But as for great teams of the past, I think they are gone forever."

"Ajax were a wonder team, just as Real Madrid were in the early 1960's. I think we shall never see such teams again, because football now is not the same."

"It is very difficult for players of such skill as Cruyff, di Stefano, Gento, Kopa, and even Ireland's George Best. It is as hard to find such individuals these days as it is to find the football they played."

"There won't be any more Cruyffs because football is too hard now. Always players are chopping down opponents in tackles; that is not good for the skilled players like Cruyff. It disappoints me a great deal."

"Football is hardly booming anywhere, and Rep fears it may never again be what it once was in the Netherlands."

"Perhaps if there were good players, the people would come back to the game," he says. "But I can't see the game recovering."

BORUSSIA Dortmund's Icelandic centre-forward Atli Edvaldsson has done so well this season that coach Udo Lattek has been on several flying missions to Reykjavik, seeking a second player. Now he has signed the 24-year-old Nagus Bergs, a midfield player with Valur Reykjavik. This will give Borussia a problem, for with Turkish Under-21 international Erdal Keser they will have three foreigners and are only allowed to play two in any League game.

Student Pirri wows Mexico

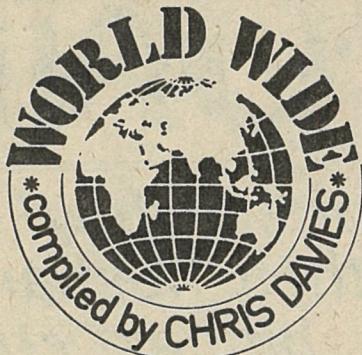
If Pirri isn't exactly a household name in Britain you can blame Spain's reluctance to play friendly matches! Because Pirri ranks alongside European greats like Beckenbauer with an impressive 12-year international career though, due to lack of games, he collected only 42 caps.

With Real Madrid he collected one European Cup; ten Spanish Leagues and four Spanish Cups during 543 games which spanned 16 seasons and in which he notched 169 goals — not a bad tally for a sweeper.

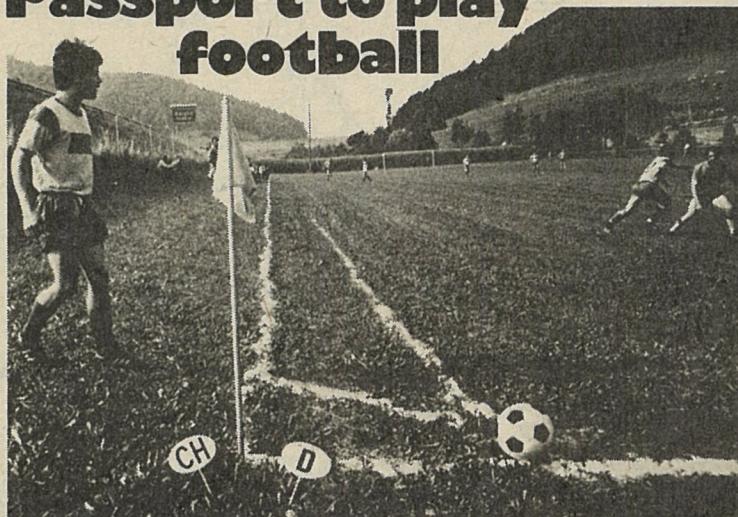
So it was a major surprise when the 35-year-old living legend of Spanish football suddenly packed his bags in July, waved goodbye to Real and headed for Mexico on a two-year, £300,000 contract for unfashionable Puebla . . .

"People made all sorts of comments when I left. But I thought it was a good time to leave after we'd clinched the League and Cup double. I wondered if I'd still be able to do justice to the club at 35. I also had the uncomfortable feeling of keeping younger men out of the side."

"I would have hated to slip out of the first team on to the subs' bench and then out of football through the back door. When Puebla made me an interesting offer I thought that the slower rhythm of Mexican football wouldn't make the same demands on me physically, and that my



Passport to play football



THE football team of Tengen-Wiechs, a village near the German-Swiss border in West Germany, needs passports, if they don't want to trespass against the law!

The line of the side of football field is identical with the border of Germany and Switzerland.

But local authorities take things easy, and so the team has no great problems with politics.

Even one of the German customs collectors is a member of the football crew, and there are friendly relations with Swiss customers.

If it were not so, there would be surely great problems: a ball kicked over the line — and so over the border — would demand tariff of duties.

And members of the team, passing the line, could be arrested because of illegal passing of border.

● Picture shows the actual border. CH = Switzerland. D = Germany.



experience could be useful to them."

If Pirri had doubts about his worth at the age of 35, the Mexicans had no doubts at all. He was welcomed as an idol (see photo) and when he starred in Puebla's sensational away win against last year's Champions Cruz Azul in his first game he was immediately established as a superstar.

"I try not to take too much notice of this. My aim is simply to play well."

But there's more to Pirri than meets the eye. In Madrid he'd been studying medicine at university, and an important factor in his move to Puebla was that he could continue his studies.

Red card for flattery

STRANGE story from Peru, where apparently, the country's women referees have unanimously decided that complimentary remarks made to them during matches will be met with a red card!

Apparently Peruvian players like to sweeten up their protests to the lady refs by adding a few polite words of flattery, such as "that was never a corner, my little dove" or "it was his fault for heading my elbow, my most cherished lovebird."

The decision to answer such pleasantries with the red card is just another example of how flattery will get you nowhere . . . except the dressing room.

Soccer with a smile Over to you!

LOUD and emphatic was the abuse hurled at the poor referee during a home fixture of Argentinian club Pampas, and when he had heard enough about himself and his parents he strode from the pitch — handing his whistle to a wildly-gesticulating critic and telling him: "Here, you have a go!" The man took over, but after awarding two penalties without any possible justification, the players bundled him from the ground and the fixture was rearranged for a later date.

Animals

THE home side was losing 3-0, and fans of the Northern Italian commerce League club Coradina were disgruntled, and therefore able to cheer when the game was interrupted. Some clown had carried two cats on to the pitch and then had friends release five dogs. The battle was hectic and play could not continue. Too bad, though, that the ref called only a temporary halt and resumed later when the pitch had been cleared. Coradina, sad to relate, went on to get beaten 7-0.

Sporting family

THE wife of Aussie soccer fan Walt Street is expecting her fifth child in September and already the father has its name lined up — Alexander for a son and Alexandra is a daughter. His other children are Dorothy, Angela, Roger and Richard. Alexander or Alexandra will add their initials to the others to form the name DARRA, the Queensland football club that Daddy supports. What if Mrs Street should become pregnant again? Walt has an answer for that, too. "We'll just call it Darra, that will do for either sex."

Canned love

WEST Australia soccer club Rockingham had been beaten at home in an early fixture of this current season and ardent fan Gerry Mayer was in a bad mood as he made his way homewards. When he spotted an empty drink can in his path, he aimed a vicious kick at it. The can soared into the air and struck attractive Teresa Prizeman in the chin. Immediately contrite, Gerry used his handkerchief to dab at the blood oozing from the cut the missile had caused. He insisted upon seeing Teresa to her home and had the nerve to ask her for a date. Fellow supporters are now planning an engagement party.

Ball-boys on the ball

BALL-BOYS at Brazilian stadiums are now being used at half-time to entertain the crowd. At several grounds ball-boys (aged 12 to 14) who have exceptional ball-control are entertaining the crowd at half time showing their skill with the ball.

Several of these ball boys have graduated to become top class players. Ze Mario, outside-right of Botafogo of Ribeiro Preto, was selected for Brazil in 1976 — several others, including Guina of Vasco, are in line for caps.

At most of the smaller clubs ball-boys are not paid, although they have

half-time refreshments.

In the bigger stadiums the pay is about £2.50 per game; Maracana, Morumbi, Mineira and other large stadiums use 14 boys per match, and usually have a list of 90 boys available for the much sought-after honour.

- The boys have to accept four rules:
- 1) not to request autographs or souvenirs from players
 - 2) not to show emotion if "their" teams score
 - 3) not allowed to kick balls
 - 4) not to enter the field of play unless ordered to by the referee.



THE crowd in the stand jeered and hurled insults towards the Arsenal goalkeeper. They were unashamedly biased against him and whether or not he had made a mistake was irrelevant. But, undeterred, the attractive lady rose to her feet and made a passionate defence of the man she had known since her schooldays.

She said determinedly: "He's not a fool. He was unsighted."

Perhaps, inwardly smiling, she sat down. Yes, those Midlands fans would not insult Bob Wilson, her husband and then Arsenal goalkeeper, again in a hurry.

She felt a tap on her shoulder and, when she turned, a man two rows back enquired: "Excuse me, are you Mrs Wilson?" "Yes, I am," came the confident reply.

"Oh, I thought so. I live in the next road to you . . ."

Megs Wilson remembers the incident well: "I felt like crawling under my seat. I was sure there were only people from the Midlands watching the game around me and no danger in me 'coming to Bob's rescue'."

What happened illustrates how involved the wives of men in soccer can become.

Hilka, the Finnish girl West Ham and England midfield player Trevor Brooking married in 1970 when he was trying to establish a first team

WONDER

— but often they can be their husbands' biggest critics

Crystal Palace striker Mike Flanagan (left) takes his wife Louise and son Adam to all home games. Trevor Brooking and his wife Hilka (right) discuss his every performance for West Ham and England.



More girls behind the men

When things are going wrong for the game's top stars, the first person they usually turn to is the wife. And in these days of big-money moves, the women often play a crucial factor in making up a player's mind whether to accept a transfer to a new club and often completely new way of life.



Manchester City's Dennis Tueart and wife Joan recently celebrated the birth of their first son, Mark (above). To the right we see Tony Woodcock with his wife Carol, and Ian Wallace, the man who replaced 'Woody' at Forest, with his wife, who is also called Carol.



WOMEN

place, recalls her early experiences of watching her husband play.

"At first, I didn't appreciate how important soccer was in England. But I quickly learned and now adore the game."

"I used to be hurt by comments directed at Trevor from people sitting near me. He soon educated me, however, saying that they have paid their money and are entitled to their own opinions. Now I'm probably Trevor's biggest critic!"

Trevor and Hilkka have a son and a daughter — Warren two, and Collette six.

Some women are more involved in football even than wives of players

and managers. Take Mrs Rene Collins, with Crystal Palace since 1970 and personal secretary to the manager from Malcolm Allison's first stint at Selhurst Park.

She has been a lifelong Palace fanatic and she considers her job as merely an extension of her hobby. She attends all Palace's home games, but dares to watch only half of them. "When the opposition are in possession I simply cannot look."

"There have been four managers in my time at the club — Bert Head, Malcolm Allison, who is now back at the club, of course, Terry Venables and Ernie Walley.

"They are four different characters and had to be treated as such. But I always wish them good luck before a game and compliment them if they win. If we lose, though, I don't normally mention it."

"My best memory is when we reached the F.A. Cup Semi-Final in 1976. Malcolm set a trend by wearing a fedora hat and it seemed that during the Cup run everyone who lived near the ground wore one."

Among the players' wives to be seen at most of Palace's home games is Mrs. Louise Flanagan, attractive missus of striker Mike.

How does she react to the uncomplimentary taunts of the fans when, as this season, results have been disappointing?

"I've tried to shut my ears to it," says Louise, "but I won't pretend some of the things they say about Mike don't hurt."

"Fortunately he seems popular with most of the Palace fans, even though he hasn't had much luck this season."

"Also, I generally take along our young son Adam to most games. The fans around us in the stand realise this and probably try not to be too upsetting."

"Some players don't like their wives going to games, but Mike enjoys me being there. He says it helps to have someone to moan at on the way home when the goals haven't gone in."

"I enjoy going to Selhurst Park. The atmosphere is generally warm and friendly. I meet some very nice people at the club."

"I get along with all the other wives and girl friends but don't see much of them apart from match days."



Megs Wilson has always stood by her husband Bob, defending him against the taunts of opposition supporters.

"We live in Essex, while most of the others come from the Croydon area."

Finding a wife who regrets that her husband has been involved in soccer is well-nigh impossible. Norah Mercer, who guaranteed herself a life sharing good times and bad when she married Joe — of Everton, Arsenal and England playing fame, manager of Sheffield United, Aston Villa, Manchester City and England and now a director of Coventry City — on September 3, 1941, knows more about the role than most.

She says: "When I married Joe all those years ago, I knew his profession. I've never for a moment regretted it. Soccer has given me the chance to meet so many people."

"I've always supported Joe and understood the pressures football can bring. They were more intense when Joe became a manager. Players have much less to think about and can be more light-hearted."

"I'd never make arrangements for Saturday night until I discovered what mood he was in. Occasionally the team would lose heavily and Joe would come home happy, because, say, he had played well. Of course, it also worked the other way," adds Norah.

Bob Wilson has successfully switched from playing the game to commenting on it on television. Megs' role has altered accordingly.

She says: "I got much more nervous when Bob was playing. A goalkeeper's error is often easier to spot than a defender's, so Bob was particularly vulnerable. But if he makes a mistake on television — and everyone makes the occasional slip — he can normally smile and get round it."

"I remember one of the first times when Bob was on television, and he was analysing a goalkeeper."

"When he came home, he asked me what I thought. I said 'Fine' but mentioned that he had used the word 'tremendous' rather a lot."

"He thought he might have said it once or twice, no more. But I had recorded the piece — as I always do — and between us we counted that he had said 'tremendous' 15 times. Bob was stunned!"

"We laugh about it now, of course. But it just shows that nerves can cause people to say things without realising it," adds Megs.

Crucial

The Wilsons have three children — John, 15, Anna, 14, and Robert, 11 — and a crucial part of a wife's duty to her footballing husband is how she treats him after a defeat.

Some might not talk about the game, while others may attempt to comfort their man. But, as Hilkka Brooking explains, roles tend to be reversed in their household.

"After a game, I'm the one who shows my feelings. Trevor is not at all moody and keeps calm. He sometimes has to comfort me!"

But what do the players think of their wives, the women who bring a touch of glamour to the game?

"Behind every soccer star there's a good wife," says Mike Flanagan. "A stable and happy home life is so important, especially when the going gets tough and you need a shoulder to cry on. Soccer wives? They're all wonderwomen!"

"When you are out on the field you're not really aware of what the crowd are saying about you. But the wives and girl friends have to sit in the stands listening to all the abuse and criticism from some of the supporters."

"It must take some doing to just sit there and ignore everything that is said. Some people can be very hurtful, and I reckon our wives deserve a medal."



Shortly before signing for Juventus from Arsenal, Liam Brady tied the knot with Sarah in Dublin (left). Arnold Muhren has settled happily in England with his family (above), while Kevin Keegan was happy to return to this country with wife Jean and daughter Laura Jane (right).



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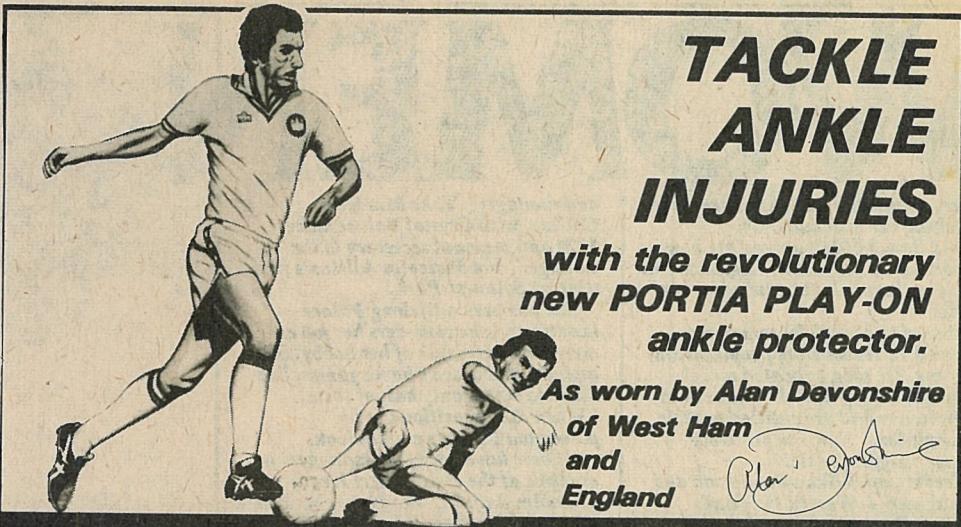
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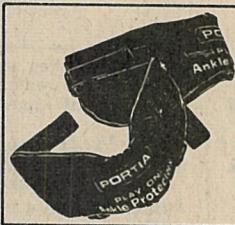


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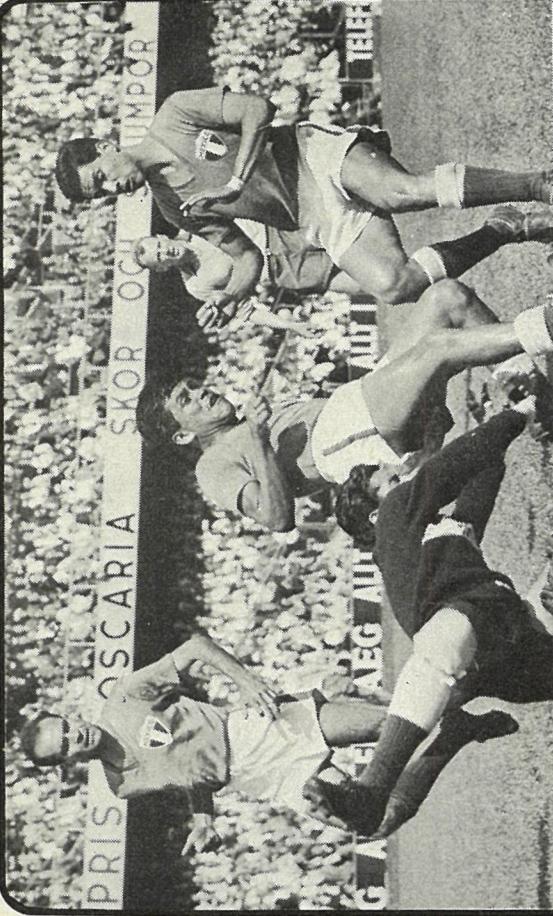
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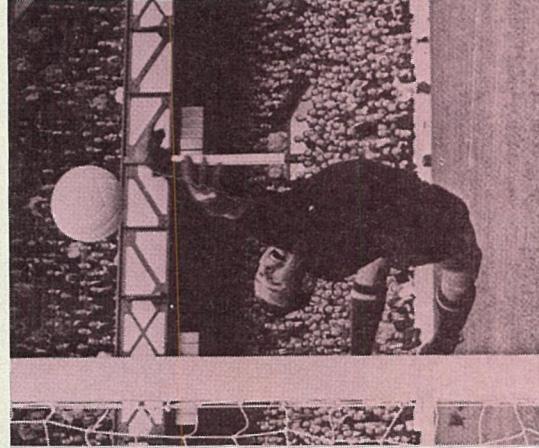
ANTONIO CARBAJAL

A LEGEND in Mexican football, Antonio Carabajal has a special place among the all-time greats as the only man to have represented his country in five World Cups! Carabajal, born in March, 1929, made his international debut on May 26th, 1950, in a 3-1 home defeat by Spain. Four weeks later he was in Brazil for his first World Cup, conceding ten goals in three games but saving countless more with his bravery, acrobatics and safe handling. In 1962 he was

voted the best 'keeper in the World Cup. And he finally bowed out at Wembley in the 1966 World Cup with a blank scoresheet in the draw with Uruguay. In the meantime Carabajal had played 63 times for Mexico; had won two Leagues and two Cups in 47 appearances for his club León; and had become the idol of the fans — who regarded him as a living symbol of Mexican football. So much so that they've built a statue of him outside the León stadium!

LEV YASHIN

NICKNAMED 'The Black Spider' thanks to his wiry stature and preference for black gear, Russia's Lev Yashin was rated Europe's top goalkeeper throughout the 1950's and early 60's. Born on October 22nd, 1929, Yashin didn't make the grade at Dynamo Moscow until the age of 21, and his views on 'keepers leaving their area to become extra defenders made him a controversial 'revolutionary'. But his impeccable positioning, lightning reflexes, sound judgment and the air of confidence he generated in his defence soon made him a permanent fixture in the Russian national team and widely admired throughout the world as he represented his country in the 1958, 1962 and 1966 World Cups. In the meantime, Yashin's sound goalkeeping had helped the USSR to win the first European Nations Cup in 1960, and by the time he retired in 1971 at the age of 41, he'd accumulated 75 Russian caps.



WHEN Alf Ramsey took over the England management in 1963 he promised that his side would win the World Cup in 1966. The critics refused to believe that his 4-3-3 formation would bring the desired result, but Ramsey silenced them in one of the finest periods in England's post-War history. Between June, 1964, when they lost 1-0 to Argentina in Rio, and April, 1967, when they were beaten 3-2 by Scotland at Wembley, England suffered only one defeat in a run of 30 games. However, that shock 3-2 win by Austria at Wembley was entirely erased from the memory that glorious afternoon in

July, 1966, when England struck top form to win the World Cup with a convincing victory over West Germany. England's progress to the Final was principally due to a fine defence, superb organisation and superb fitness, but in that Final even the attack clicked and Geoff Hurst struck top form to become the only player to score three goals in a World Cup Final. Final: England 4 (Hurst 3, Peters), West Germany 2 (Haller, Weber). Team: Banks; Cohen, Wilson, Jackie Charlton, Moore, Stiles, Bobby Charlton, Ball, Hunt, Hurst and Peters.

ENGLAND 1966



NORMAN HUNTER

DESPITE a reputation as a 'hard man' during his lengthy spell with Don Revie's great Leeds United team, Norman Hunter's defensive qualities played a key role in the success of the Elland Road team during the late 1960's and early 70's. Appeared in the 1965 F.A. Cup Final, when Leeds lost 2-1 to Liverpool after extra-time. Was also on the losing side in the 1970 and 1973 F.A. Cup Finals, but managed one winners' medal when he helped his club beat Arsenal 1-0 in the Centenary Final of 1972. Also starred in the 1968 League Cup Final success, again against Arsenal at Wembley, and was voted PFA Player of the Year in 1977. Won his first full England cap in 1966 in the build up to the World Cup Finals. In that game he replaced Nobby Stiles as the midfield ball-winner against West Germany, but was unable to displace the little Manchester United star for the more important games that year. The last of the 28 full caps he gained for England came in the 3-0 defeat by Czechoslovakia in October, 1974. Made 543 League appearances for Leeds before moving to Bristol City, where he passed the century of League appearances mark. Moved to Barnsley in October of last year, and following Allan Clarke's appointment as boss at Elland Road, Hunter was promoted to manager at the Oakwell Ground earlier this season.



JOHAN CRUYUFF



HOLLAND'S most famous footballer and one of the most naturally gifted players ever produced by the European game. A devastating goalscorer, his breathtaking skills earned him the European Footballer of the Year award in 1971, 1973, and 1974. Starring in Ajax of Amsterdam's three successive European Cup Finals between 1971 and 1973, Cruyff scored both goals in the 2-0 victory over Inter Milan at Rotterdam in 1972. More than any other player, Johan Cruyff was responsible for the emergence of the Dutch national team as one of the strongest footballing nations in the world, and he was the inspiration behind their success in reaching the Final of the 1974 World Cup, which they lost 2-1 to host nation West Germany. After Holland, Cruyff accepted a new challenge when he went to Spanish giants Barcelona in a big money move to boost the previously flagging fortunes of the Catalan club. Since his departure to America, Barcelona's form has taken a dramatic nosedive, as has Ajax's since his move. Perhaps that more than anything is indicative of his influence on the sides he has graced with his seemingly limitless talent and skill.

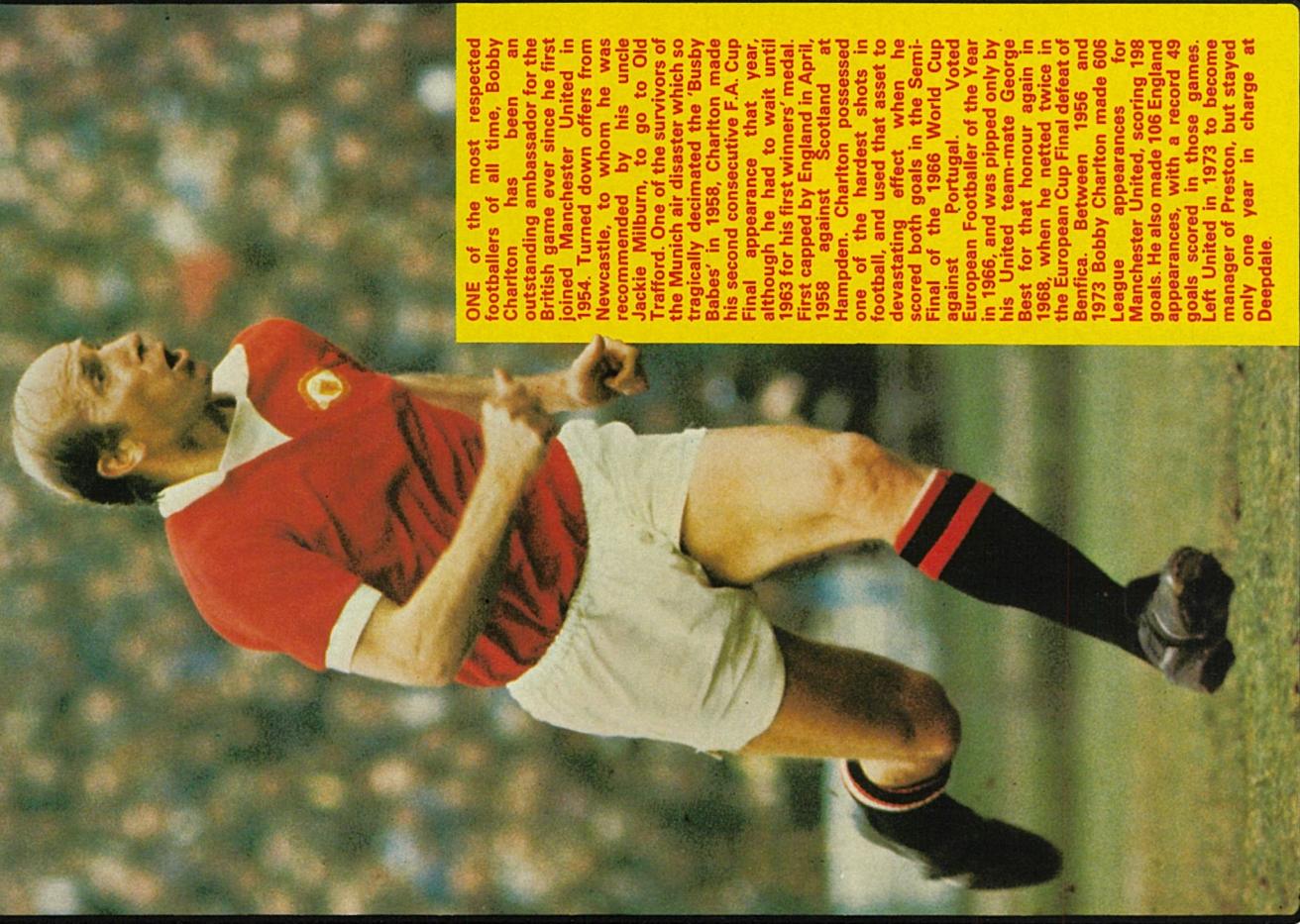


BILLY McNEILL

CAPTAIN of Celtic's 'Lisbon Lions' when they won the European Cup in 1967. Capped 29 times by Scotland between 1961 and 1972, Billy McNeill played a leading part in helping to establish Celtic as the most successful Scottish club of all time when they won the League Championship nine seasons in succession between 1966 and 1974. A dominating central defender, McNeill's international career suffered due to the glut of outstanding defensive anchor men available to Scotland during the 60's, including Greig, McKinnon, McLintock, Ure, Yeats and McGory. A dominating captain, McNeill also gained Scottish Cup honours in 1964, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974 and 1975. He also skippered the club in the 1970 European Cup Final, when they lost 2-1 to Feyenoord. Proved to be an outstanding servant to the Parkhead club, and it came as no surprise that he was the man selected to follow Jock Stein as manager of Celtic by the board of directors.

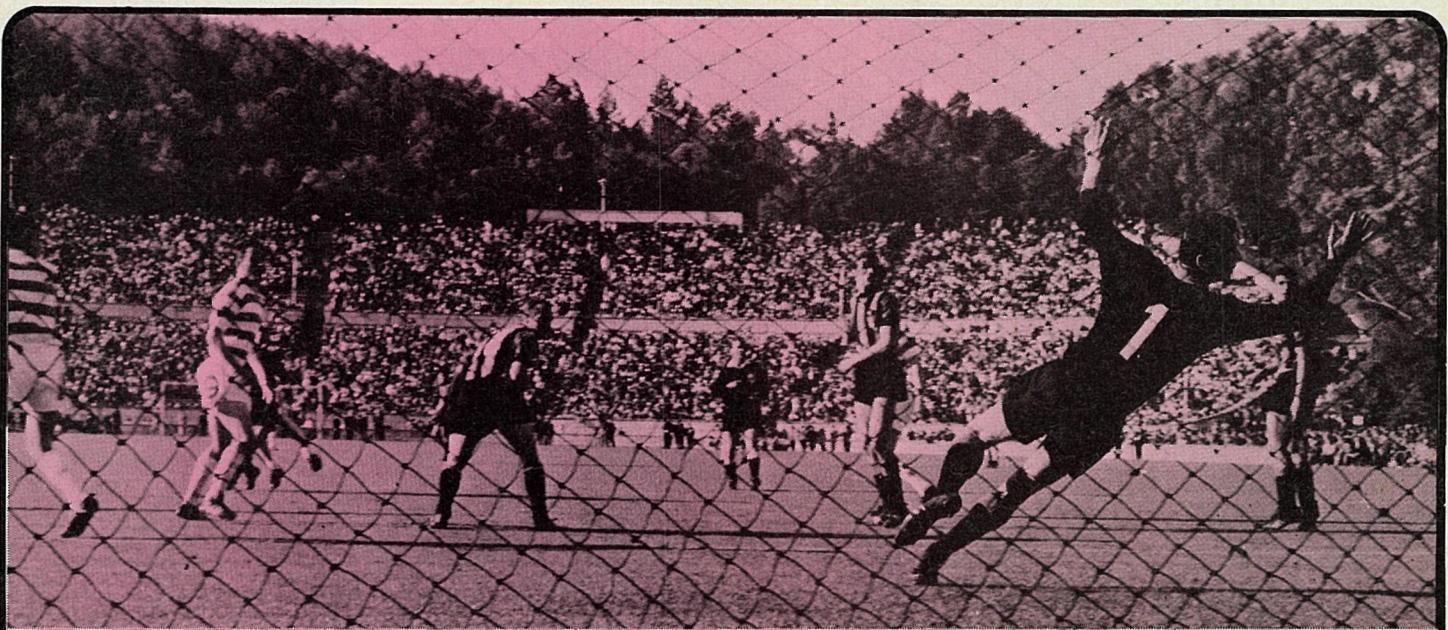
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BOBBY CHARLTON



ONE of the most respected footballers of all time, Bobby Charlton has been an outstanding ambassador for the British game ever since he first joined Manchester United in 1954. Turned down offers from Newcastle, to whom he was recommended by his uncle Jackie Milburn, to go to Old Trafford. One of the survivors of the Munich air disaster which so tragically decimated the 'Busby Babes' in 1958, Charlton made his second consecutive F.A. Cup Final appearance that year although he had to wait until 1963 for his first winners' medal. First capped by England in April 1958 against Scotland at Hampden, Charlton possessed one of the hardest shots in football, and used that asset to devastating effect when he scored both goals in the Semi-Final of the 1966 World Cup against Portugal. Voted European Footballer of the Year in 1966, and was pipped only by his United team-mate George Best for that honour again in 1968 when he netted twice in the European Cup Final defeat of Benfica. Between 1956 and 1973 Bobby Charlton made 606 League appearances for Manchester United, scoring 198 goals. He also made 106 England appearances, with a record 49 goals scored in those games. Left United in 1973 to become manager of Preston, but stayed only one year in charge at Deepdale.

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CELTIC's 1966-67 side must rank among the all-time greats, for the extent of their success has rarely been equalled. Sweeping all before them with delightful attacking football, spear-headed by non-stop Steve Chalmers, they won the Scottish League Cup, Glasgow Cup, Scottish F.A. Cup, Scottish League Championship, and capped it all by becoming the first British side to capture the European Cup. In 62 competitive matches played in this glorious campaign Jock Stein's Bhoys were beaten only three times. Dundee United completed a remarkable League double over them, and in the European Cup they lost by

CELTIC 1967

the only goal scored in a tight game against Vojvodina in Yugoslavia. Their European Cup-winning team: Simpson; Craig, Gemmell, Murdoch, McNeill, Clark, Johnstone, Wallace, Chalmers, Auld, Lennox. What a team! Celtic

won the League title nine times in a row 1966-74 as well as the League Cup and F.A. Cup five times each in the same period. Four players, Billy McNeill, Jimmy Johnstone, Bobby Lennox, and Jimmy Brogan, figured in all nine of those Championship-winning campaigns, while Bobby Murdoch played in eight. 1966-67: League Champions three points ahead of Rangers. League Cup Final — bt Rangers 1-0. Scottish F.A. Cup — bt Aberdeen 2-0. Glasgow Cup — bt Partick Thistle 4-0. European Cup Final — bt Inter Milan (above, in Lisbon) 2-1. Total games: P62 W51 D8 L3 F178 A43. League Pts 58.

TOM FINNEY

BORN in Preston, Tom Finney joined the local club in 1937 and served them loyalty for 23 years, scoring 249 goals in 569 games (187 goals in 433 peace-time League appearances). One of soccer's gentlemen, he was always a credit to the game and to the club with whom he stuck through thick and thin — a loyalty which probably denied him greater honours, for although he was capped by England 76 times, he never collected either an F.A. Cup winners' medal or a League Championship medal. For England he scored 16 goals from outside-right, 13 from outside-left, and one from centre-forward, the position he occupied more regularly towards the end of his career. After hanging up his boots in 1960 he was persuaded by Distillery to return for one match when they met the mighty Benfica in a European Cup tie in Belfast in 1963. Finney that day captained the Irish side to a surprise 3-3 draw.

'BUTCHER FOR ENGLAND'

WHAT a pity it is that Kevin Beattie has not been able to steer clear of injuries and share in Ipswich's surge this season.

He's one of the most positive players I've known in the game and his performances for Ipswich over the years is one of the reasons why they are in the position they are today.

I'm certain that in past seasons Ipswich would have gone on to win more honours in the game if Beattie had been able to play week in-week out.

Ipswich manager Bobby Robson has drawn attention to the fact in the past that they would be all right with Beattie in the side, but more often than not his absence has been crucial to performances and results.

At one time it looked as though Beattie would really emerge as a world star. He had the lot — pace, aggression and skill — and he was the sort of player you always wanted in your side.

Possession

He reminded me a lot of our own Kenny Burns. When Burns goes in for a ball there are no half measures and you know that more often than not, he's going to come out of the tackle in possession.

Perhaps that kind of commitment is what has left Beattie dogged by injury over the years. The more tackles you enter, the more risk you have of injury.

Obviously, there is still a good chance that Kevin will put his worries behind him and find a regular niche in the Ipswich side. But it's going to be that little bit more difficult now.

Terry Butcher and Russell Osman seem to have established themselves in the Ipswich defence and will take some shifting.

I've been particularly impressed with Butcher, who looks very much an England centre-half of the not too distant future. He's got immense potential and is one of the big reasons why Ipswich have done so well this season.

He's a very dependable and determined lad and from what I know of him, it's unfortunate that he's been mixed up in one or two little incidents like the one involving Kevin Keegan at Southampton the other week.

He's such a nice lad that I hope people don't get the wrong impression about him. He plays the game hard but, from what I've seen, very fairly.



'Love for Spurs'

I'VE always been a big Tottenham fan and used to idolise them in the 1960's because of the type of football they played.

And it's a reputation that the current Spurs team is attracting for their flowing inventive football that is providing great entertainment for crowds around the country.

But as their manager Keith Burkinshaw has recently pointed out, the game is not just about entertaining.

In some ways Tottenham's strength is their weakness . . . if you see what I mean.

When they are playing well and going forward in a positive and skilful manner, they are a tremendous sight . . . as we can testify this season.

They beat us on the opening day of the season at White Hart Lane and then recently came to the City Ground, caught us on an off-day and departed with a 3-0 win under

their belts.

But Tottenham would be the first to admit that on their bad days they can look very frail and brittle and it's finding a happy medium between entertainment and winning that they will be searching for in future.

It's the identity they always had in the 1960's when, some of you who are old enough, will remember that Tottenham won the double along with so many other things.

I can remember one day going along to Filbert Street for training after finishing school for the day and bumping into the then Tottenham manager Bill Nicholson.

He had been there to watch a Leicester-Tottenham reserve match and was just making his way out of the ground and stopped to have a chat with me.

I was only 11 or 12 at the time but the fact that such an important man in football stopped to have a

chat left a big impression on me.

Such an impression that I've always had some feeling towards Tottenham and, as long as it's not at our expense, I won't mind one bit if they get it right at White Hart Lane.

'Forest for Wembley'

WE are determined at Nottingham Forest this season to end our F.A. Cup jinx.

It's the one trophy that has eluded us over the last three seasons . . . and that in itself speaks volumes for the kind of success we have enjoyed at the club.

But I feel pretty strongly — and I know that a lot of the lads share my view — that this could be the year for us to complete the set of medals.

By our standards, we have had a disappointing season but that's not to say that it won't all come right for us before too long and I think the F.A. Cup might just be coming round at the right time for us.

We have the remainder of December to sort out what problems we have had and, of course, we've got the big bonus of having Trevor Francis fit again to resume his career in top class football.

Inspiration

There is no doubt that Trevor has the kind of ability that could be a big inspiration for us in the second half of the season and it's great to have him back.

While we have not done too well in the F.A. Cup in the last three seasons, it's always been a quality side that has knocked us out.

We have gone out to West Brom, Arsenal and Liverpool, so although we never like losing to anyone, there was no disgrace involved on any occasion.

In the past, the F.A. Cup has been regarded as an "extra" to us, simply because by the time the Third Round arrived, we have been immersed in the League Cup or European Cup and, more often than not, both competitions.

This season, we've got more spare weeks than we have known for years and I would like to think that because of that we have got the appetite whetted.

Although the European Cup is the major club competition, in terms of glamour and prestige the F.A. Cup is second to nothing and I wouldn't mind being at Wembley next May.

Happy Christmas everyone.

Barry Silkman (main pic), Peter Withe (below, left) and Duncan McKenzie (below, right) have all found it difficult to settle down at one club. Yet their talents have not gone unappreciated, and now they are showing their skills around the country.



"A ROLLING stone gathers no moss," the old proverb says, but some of soccer's nomads who have pitched their tents in a variety of grounds along the League's highways and byways would be out of the starting-blocks a bit sharp to give that hoary statement a robust elbow.

Take that wandering star, Stan Bowles, currently inspiring an Orient side displaying gleams of First Division promise as their menacing shadow falls across more distinguished promotion contenders.

Manchester City, Bury, Crewe, Carlisle United, Queens Park Rangers and Nottingham Forest are the clubs who have had the

SOCER'S ROLLING

controversial Bowles on their pay-roll, and if all of them, at one time or another, basked in the warmth of his shimmering skill, they were made sharply aware that life with Stan could be as prickly as wrestling with a porcupine.

A few managers may have been left a little wiser and much less frustrated as the former Q.P.R. star moved on to meet fresh challenges, but right now, Bowles' latest manager, Jimmy Bloomfield, wears the grin of a Pools jackpot winner as he talks about the terrific impact Stan has made on team-mates and fans alike since his arrival at Brisbane Road.

"Stan's class and experience have had a marvellous effect on the side," said Bloomfield. "He wanted to come back to London,

and Orient was the team he wanted to play for, and what a job he's doing!

"Stan's inspiring the side, particularly young John Chiedozie, who is responding superbly to the splendid service he is getting from Bowles."

It certainly looks as if that mercurial rolling stone, Stan Bowles, is poised to gather a fair bit of moss at Brisbane Road this season.

Another of football's foot-loose brigade is Aston Villa's powerful and accomplished striker, Peter Withe, whose nomadic career got under way in the Fourth Division with Southport, then Barrow, before switching to South Africa, where Peter lined-up with Port Elizabeth and the picturesquely-named Arcadia Shepherds.

He returned to England, and suddenly, for the former electrician on Liverpool's docks, the uneventful, undistinguished road he had travelled was lit up with the heady promise of success when Wolves signed him.

Deter

Withe's stay at Molineux, however, only produced 17 League outings and three goals, but that didn't deter Birmingham from bringing the big centre-forward to St. Andrews, where he hit nine goals in 35 League appearances.

Twelve goals in 52 games didn't exactly add up to a gold-plated central striker, but those sort of mathematics were of no consequence to Brian Clough, who saw Peter as the type of spearhead who would flourish in the company of players like John Robertson, Tony Woodcock, Archie Gemmill and Martin O'Neill.

Nottingham Forest's controversial boss duly got his man and, at the same time, set about proving that he was no slouch when it came to peering into a crystal ball.

Clough's shrewd assessment of Withe's potential was bang on target as the big "scouser,"

responding brilliantly to the skills of his new team-mates, emerged as one of the most dangerous strikers in the First Division during Forest's remarkable success in the 1977/78 season when, back in the top-grade after a five-year absence, they won the League Championship and the League Cup.

A little over a year later, however, Peter hit the road once again when Clough sold him to Newcastle United for £225,000, a deal that left the Midlands club tucking away a tasty £205,000 profit, as only £20,000 had changed hands when the player left Birmingham.

Although he quickly established himself with the United fans and consistently underlined how much he had benefited from his spell at the City Ground, Newcastle's

disappearance from the promotion race last season only strengthened Peter's desire to sample First Division soccer again.

Both Everton, the team that Withe supported as a youngster, and Aston Villa, anxious to end their lengthy and futile search for a successor to Andy Gray, were eager to give Peter a top-class



Stan Bowles, whose off the field activities have been largely responsible for his inability to stay put.

Surely none of soccer's travelling men ever departed an outfit with the alacrity and relief of Q.P.R.'s new boy, Barry Silkman, as he thankfully swapped the hot sun of Tel Aviv for the imminent bite of an English winter.

Barry, a lively, clever little forward, whose League career had embraced Hereford United, Crystal Palace, Plymouth Argyle, Luton Town (on loan) and Manchester City, was so upset and disillusioned when Malcolm Allison axed him from City's first team that he decided to quit English football altogether.

"I had an offer from Maccabi Tel Aviv," he explains, "and, being Jewish, I felt that if I signed for them, I stood a chance of getting into the national side. I fixed up with Maccabi, and filled in some more forms that made me eligible to play for Israel."

"The crunch came later, however, when I was told that by becoming an Israeli citizen, I had also made myself liable for military service!"

"Then again, when I wanted to return home for a holiday, I was told I had to get permission from the Army authorities in Israel! That was enough as far as I was concerned. I got out of the country, and later obtained my release from Maccabi."

Silkman, a Londoner by birth, decided to join Brentford, but his wish to join a higher League club was granted not so long ago when he was snapped up by Q.P.R. boss Terry Venables. Now he is lending his attacking skills to the Loftus Road cause, and hopes to help his new club back to the First Division.

"I played 23 games for Manchester City in the First Division," he says. "I'd been playing well when suddenly I was dropped. I know I have the skill to play in the top-grade, and there are some great players at Rangers."

And at Birmingham, skipper Archie Gemmill has been in inspirational form with his fifth club. He started at St Mirren, moved to Preston, and has since picked up League winners' medals

STONES

recall.

He chose Villa, a decision that delighted manager Ron Saunders, who had this to say about his £500,000 signing recently: "Peter is doing exactly what I wanted him to. His experience is proving invaluable to our younger players, and his intelligent running and positioning have had a lot to do with our success so far this season."

"He is a first-class target-man, big, strong, and courageous. He'll get goals, and create them for us this season."

Rolling stones gather no moss? That should raise a chuckle or two in Newcastle United's boardroom, for it was only last May that The Magpies raked in their record transfer-fee when wandering star Withe headed for Villa Park and his eighth club in eight years.



S.A.S. SPURRED STEVE INTO ACTION

A DOZEN goals scored by the beginning of December have underlined Steve Archibald's arrival in England with a rapidly improving Spurs side, but the Scottish striker signed from Aberdeen in the summer very nearly stayed put North of the border.

It took a lot of soul searching before Archibald put pen to paper and agreed to the move to White Hart Lane. Now he reveals he couldn't be happier.

"I feel as though I have really arrived, although I accept I will never stop learning something new in this game."

"Joining Spurs has opened up a whole new world for me, yet I almost stayed with The Dons."

"I worried a lot before eventually deciding to make the move. I sat up one night smoking all sorts of cigars as I tried to decide whether to move or stay."

"I felt sick the following morning, but I had reached a decision . . . I was going to remain with Aberdeen!"

"That day I went to see manager Alex Ferguson, but he was just leaving his office as I arrived."

"He used to have a chair in his Pittodrie office which he called his 'Steve Archibald chair'. I suppose he must have been fed up with me seeing him every now and again about this and that."

"Anyway, he told me he was too busy to see me that afternoon. He said whatever I had to say to him would have to keep."

"If he hadn't been in such a rush I might have put pen to paper and remained at Pittodrie!"

"As it was, I gave it more thought, talked it over with a close friend of mine and he told me I should give English football a go and see how I got on."

"It was just around the time of the Iranian Embassy siege in London that I really made up my

mind. It was the motto on the S.A.S. that caught my eye. It said: Who Dares Wins.

"I thought that summed up my situation. I realised then that I would be starting the new season as a Spurs player and I have never had cause to regret that decision."

"The manager, the club, team-mates and fans have all been very kind to me and I aim to repay them in the best possible way."

"There is little doubt that the courageous striker will make the grade at White Hart Lane and become the marksman who will help the Spurs fans to forget all about the scoring exploits of the amazing Jimmy Greaves."

Attack

Malcolm Macdonald, the new Fulham manager, made a stinging attack on Archibald's contribution to Spurs in a national daily newspaper, but the player refused to snap back and get involved in a war of words.

"To my knowledge it was the first time he had ever seen me," says Archibald. "I don't think you can make up your mind about a player after just one showing."

"He is entitled to his opinion, of course. Good luck to him, but it won't get through to me, I assure you."

Archibald's reply to criticism has been to put even more effort into his game and rival defences realise they have to concentrate fully for 90 minutes when this Scottish menace is in top form.

"I feel I owe so much to Spurs," says Archibald. "They had the faith in my ability to part with £750,000 and I want to make sure the boss, Keith Burkinshaw, gets value for money."

"When I first met him I told him I wanted to be remembered in football as a winner."

"That still stands."

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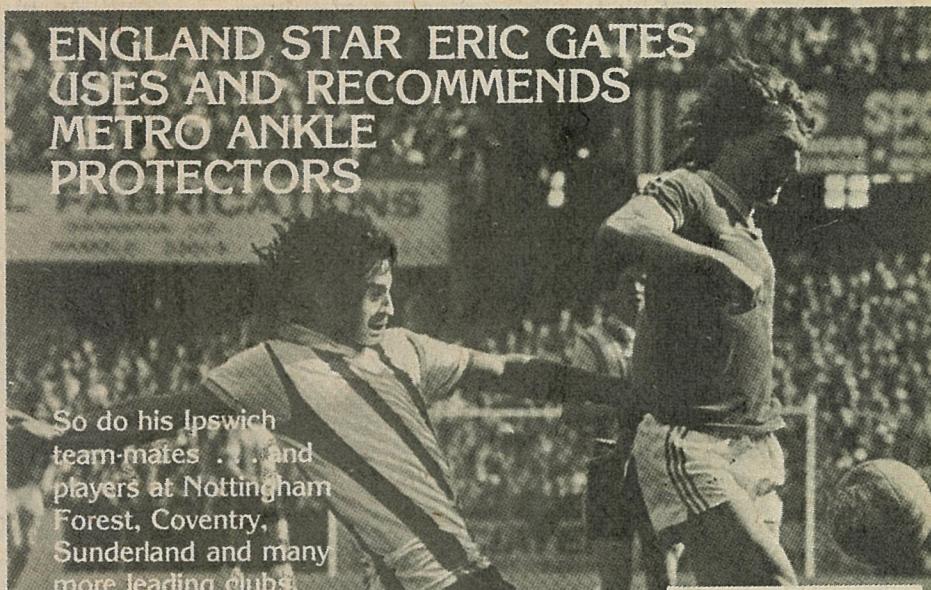
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'I'M A BIG 'BOMBER' FAN'

TOP Scottish comedian Andy Cameron — almost as big a Rangers fan as John Grieg — can be quite cruel to his so-called heroes at times.

I remember last season at the Player of the Year function at the Albany Hotel in Glasgow where we gathered to honour Aberdeen's Gordon Strachan there was silence as Andy stood up to make a speech.

Just as he was about to start talking someone dropped a piece of cutlery and, quick as a flash, Andy quipped: "Oh, I see Peter McCloy is here tonight!"

The goalkeeper's position is one which comes in for some heavy criticism and so, too, is the centre-back role where Colin Jackson performs so well for Rangers.

Andy Cameron believes big Colin would look better playing for St Mirren. He reckons Colin, who has a bit of grey in his black hair, would look good playing in black and white stripes.

Prefers

Team-mates can be cruel, too. We've cheekily and unjustifiably nicknamed Colin 'Quentin Crisp'. I think he prefers to be known as 'Bomber', which is the name our fans have given him. I think given the choice I would go for the latter as well!

Actually, I would like to talk about Colin and Peter McCloy in this column because they are players who are invaluable to teams, but rarely share the headlines.

They stay out of the limelight and get on with their jobs out on the pitch without any fuss or bother.

Colin is Rangers' longest-serving player and he tells me Third Lanark were even playing when he signed up at Ibrox. That wasn't yesterday you know!

The big man is a Rangers player



Tartan Talk

DEREK JOHNSTONE

through and through and tells me he never wants to play for any other team. I get the impression that Colin might quit soccer altogether rather than play for another club once he decides to call it a day at Ibrox.

I hope that decision is a long way off, because I rate Colin as one of the best in the business, a vastly under-rated player who is appreciated greatly by the men who play beside him.

Back in '72 he was ready to play in the European Cup-Winners' Cup Final against Moscow Dynamo in Spain, but collected a nasty injury in training. It ruled him out and I moved back into defence from the front line as we won the trophy 3-2.

The professionalism of Colin that evening was amazing. He could have been forgiven for being down in the dumps after missing such a marvellous occasion, but there wasn't a single moan from him.

He went round every single player in the dressing room to offer his congratulations. It takes a really big man to thrust such a disappointment behind him and act in such a way. I'll always remember his actions that evening in Barcelona.

And what about big Peter McCloy, who gets better and better every season?

People keep telling me he looks a bit awkward getting down to low balls because of his mammoth

6ft 4in frame, but the main thing is that he gets to most of them!

I'll always remember a funny incident when Peter and I were playing for Scotland, although it wasn't so humorous at the time. We were playing in a friendly game against Brazil at Hampden eight seasons ago and I, unfortunately, scored the only goal of the game for the Brazilians with a diving header after a right wing cross from Valdomiro.

I meant to put it past the post, but it rocketed right into our own goal. Big Peter, who had to swap his yellow goalkeeper's shirt for a green Queen's Park sweater because of the colour clash with the Brazilian's jerseys, asked me what I was thinking about after the game. I told him I didn't recognise him in a green jersey and thought he was the rival 'keeper!

Now I've just time to answer a letter from a Miss Rosaleen McGee, of Glasgow, who informs me that she is a Celtic fan and asks if I still stand by my prediction that Rangers will win the Premier Division this season.

My answer: Of course we will, Miss McGee! Okay, we might have had a little stammer with a goalless draw with Hearts at Tynecastle and a 1-0 defeat from Morton at Ibrox, but I've always maintained that the race is a marathon and not a sprint. We'll be there at the finishing line ahead of everyone else when it matters most . . . at the end of the season.

Cheers for now . . . Happy Christmas and a successful 1981.



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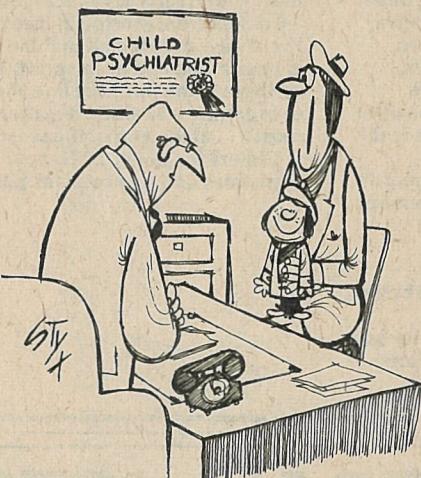
FOOTBALL FESTIVE FUNNIES



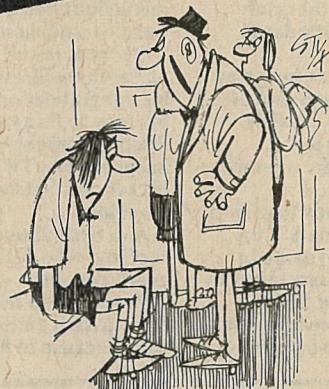
This week Arsenal's physio Fred Street (left) and defender David O'Leary join in the Christmas fun and select the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



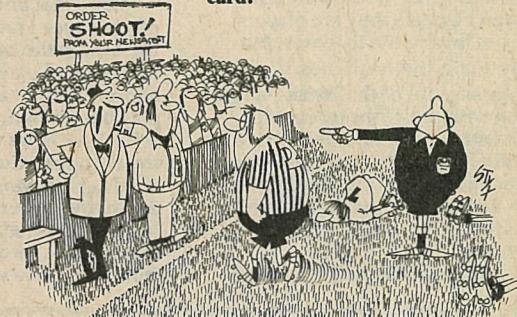
"It's made his Christmas. A player actually sent him a card."



"He lives in a world of fantasy, doctor — even thinks Brian Clough is Father Christmas."



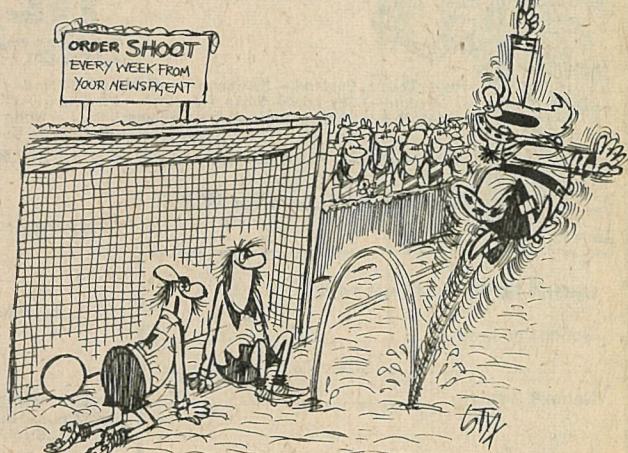
"Ask Santa to put a right foot in your stocking that doesn't miss open goals."



"Your New Year's resolution has lasted exactly ten seconds."



"And what kind of present did the grateful board of directors give their loyal, long serving manager?"



"Now, where the heck did HE come from?"

WHEN Brian Clough said "I'm finished with soccer management," after being sacked by Leeds United, he probably meant it ... for about a day.

Clough was "shattered" following his dismissal after 44 turbulent days at Elland Road. But one secret of success is determination in the face of adversity — and that applies to football management as much as in any other business.

Clough, who had guided Derby County to the League Championship in 1971-72, was sacked by Leeds in September, 1974. By January, 1975, he had recovered sufficiently to accept the job as boss of Nottingham Forest.

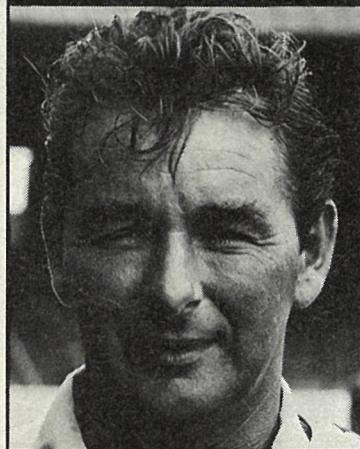
His deeds since then have been phenomenal. He and Peter Taylor, his assistant, first took Forest to promotion from the Second Division; then to the League Championship, two European Cup triumphs and three successive appearances in the League Cup Final — winning twice.

Clough is a prime example of a manager sacked by one club who returns to enjoy increased success with another. Some of the top managers in Britain feature on the list with him . . . Ron Saunders, Bobby Robson, Dave Sexton and Lawrie McMenemy.

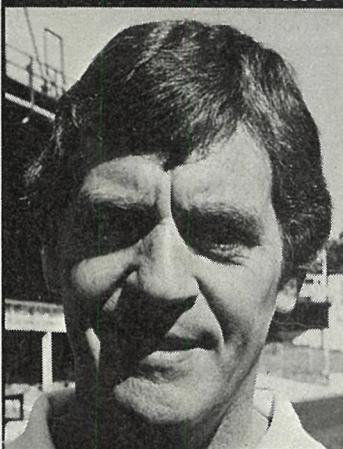
Take Ron Saunders. His grueling training methods had been a

SACKED!

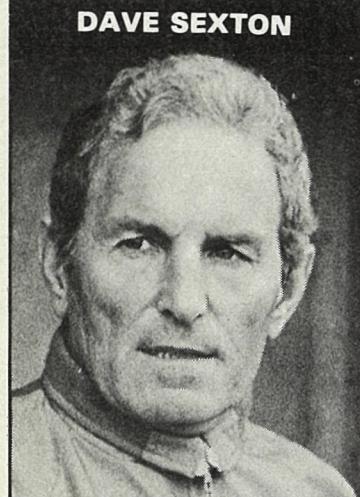
BRIAN CLOUGH



LAWRIE McMENEMY



DAVE SEXTON



RON SAUNDERS



factor in taking Norwich to promotion from Division Two. In November, 1973, he resigned at Carrow Road to enter big-time management with Manchester City. Five months later he was dismissed.

He said: "I was let down at Manchester City. Being sacked was a humiliating experience. I won't change my methods, maybe



Kevin Keegan

just refine them a little."

That added refinement has paid dividends. Saunders was out of football only two months. He has built his next club, Aston Villa, into one of the most exciting teams in England. Their impact on the First Division this season has been dramatic.

Lawrie McMenemy, 6ft 4in with a physique to match, is the type of man who can take a blow. And he was forced to do so when dismissed as manager of Doncaster Rovers in May, 1971.

He led Rovers to the Fourth Division title at his first attempt in 1968-69, so the potential to become a successful manager was clear.

After two years at Grimsby — he made them Fourth Division Champions, too — he was handed

the task of putting Southampton, and the South Coast in general, on the footballing map.

The impact was extraordinary. His commanding and persuasive character made Saints believe in themselves so strongly that they beat Manchester United 1-0 in the 1976 F.A. Cup Final. He has coaxed several of the game's best crowd-pullers to The Dell, notably Charlie George, Alan Ball and, of course, Kevin Keegan.

Lawrie's memories, however, of being sacked by Doncaster are less sweet: "Going on the dole was so humiliating. But it taught me what can happen in soccer. I vowed that it would never happen again."

Dave Sexton's apprenticeship on the way to inheriting the biggest job in football club management was strictly metropolitan. He

served seven London clubs as player, and manager.

He made his name when Chelsea won the 1970 F.A. Cup Final. But, after much wrangling at Stamford Bridge, he was sacked in October, 1974. He went, saying: "I wasn't surprised. If you walk a tightrope you must expect to fall off sometime."

Two weeks later, he succeeded Gordon Jago at Queens Park Rangers and took the club to their best League placing — Championship runners-up in 1975-76. He developed a team of huge attacking flair and the future seemed rosy.

But when Tommy Docherty was sacked by Manchester United in July, 1977, Sexton, until then always a Southerner, was tempted to Old Trafford.

Being sacked by Fulham, the club he once played for, hurt Bobby Robson. "I blame my own inexperience," he said but his audacious decision to drop Craven Cottage idol Johnny Haynes was also a contributing factor.

That was in November, 1968, and two months after his ten-month reign at Fulham ended, he was appointed manager of Ipswich.

In Robson's first season at Portman Road, Ipswich won the Second Division and, after a couple of seasons' consolidation, they have

become one of the most consistent teams in Division One.

And, after nearly 12 years in charge at Portman Road, Bobby Robson is now the longest-serving one-club manager in the game.

Being sacked is not the most pleasant experience in any walk of life, football included. But for five men, it put them on the road to real soccer success.

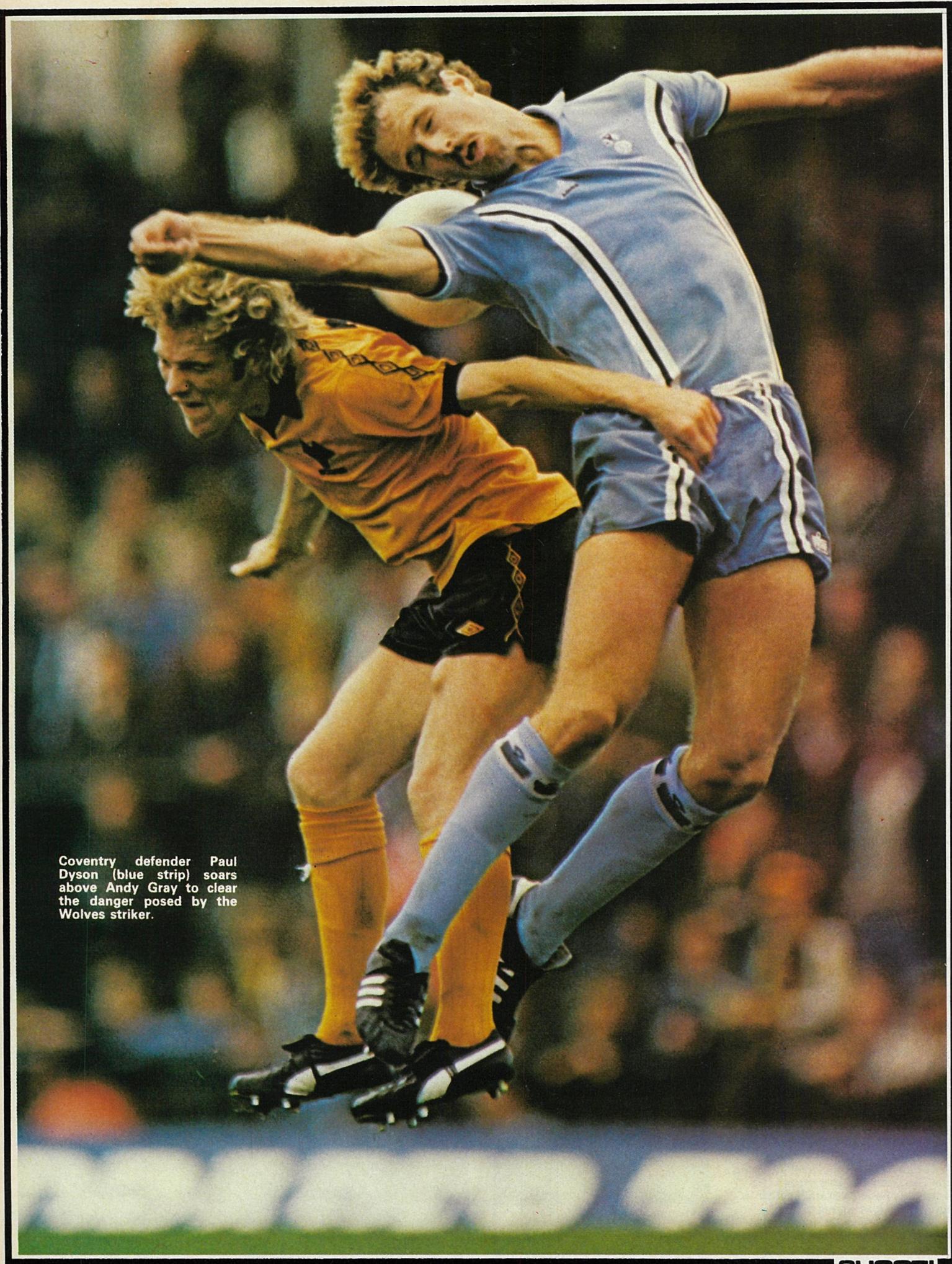


Charlie George

EVERYONE wants to make football more glamorous . . . but Arsenal defender John Devine isn't grumbling. And no wonder. The Republic of Ireland international has been going out with Michelle Rocca for four years and the University student — Miss Ireland — was one of the Finalists in the 1980 Miss World contest. Michelle, 21, entered at John's suggestion for a laugh, and while she didn't win, Michelle certainly looks great in one of John's Ireland shirts.



SHOOT!



Coventry defender Paul Dyson (blue strip) soars above Andy Gray to clear the danger posed by the Wolves striker.

IS the First Division as we know it today really the domain of the jet-propelled, glamorous youngsters so eagerly wooed by the media for their opinions and their potted biographies?

Is achieving success in the League's upper reaches all about frantic pace and the fitness of vigorous, ambitious young men?

If you're inclined to give these questions a hearty affirmative, make sure that Wolves' smooth midfield operator Kenny Hibbitt isn't within earshot, for the Molineux star firmly believes that the First Division's veterans are the players who provide the top-grade with its character, class, and skill.

"The over-30's are the Division's characters, the bill-toppers," says Kenny, "and a look at the number of so-called 'veterans' at present starring in the First Division proves my point."

FIRST DIVISION VETERANS STILL GOING STRONG

"The First Division is no place for kids. They need time to become characters, and they also need experienced men around them."

Although Kenny seems to have handed out a generous helping of cold shoulder to the First Division's talented kids, it would be difficult to dispute his claim that the players who have come up to the 30 milestone, and those who have passed it, are the people with the class.

Arsenal, for example, can point to their own outstanding "old-timers," goalkeeper Pat Jennings and midfield dynamo, John Hollins, two superb professionals, who have represented everything that is splendid about the game.

Bravery

Jennings, at 35, continues to earn the acclaim of First Division crowds with his agility, bravery, and a temperament that would remain unruffled in the face of charging buffaloes.

When Spurs decided that the big Irishman's enormous talents were on the decline, he was allowed to go to their North London rivals, Arsenal, for a meagre £40,000.

Ironically, while the Tottenham club sought to fill the massive gap Pat's departure had created, the most-capped footballer in Northern Ireland's soccer history was performing as majestically as ever between the Arsenal posts.

Today, three years after enlisting for The Gunners, this most amiable of soccer stars is quite definite regarding his future.

"I've no thought of packing up for quite a while," says Pat, "I've signed a new two-year contract and I'm enjoying the game as

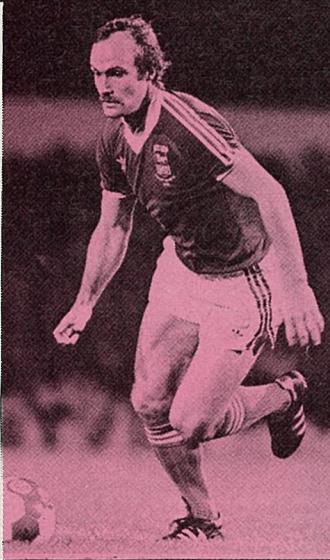
much as I've ever done."

Highbury's other first team "golden oldie", John Hollins, who gave Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers such sterling service before moving across London, has been playing as well as ever.

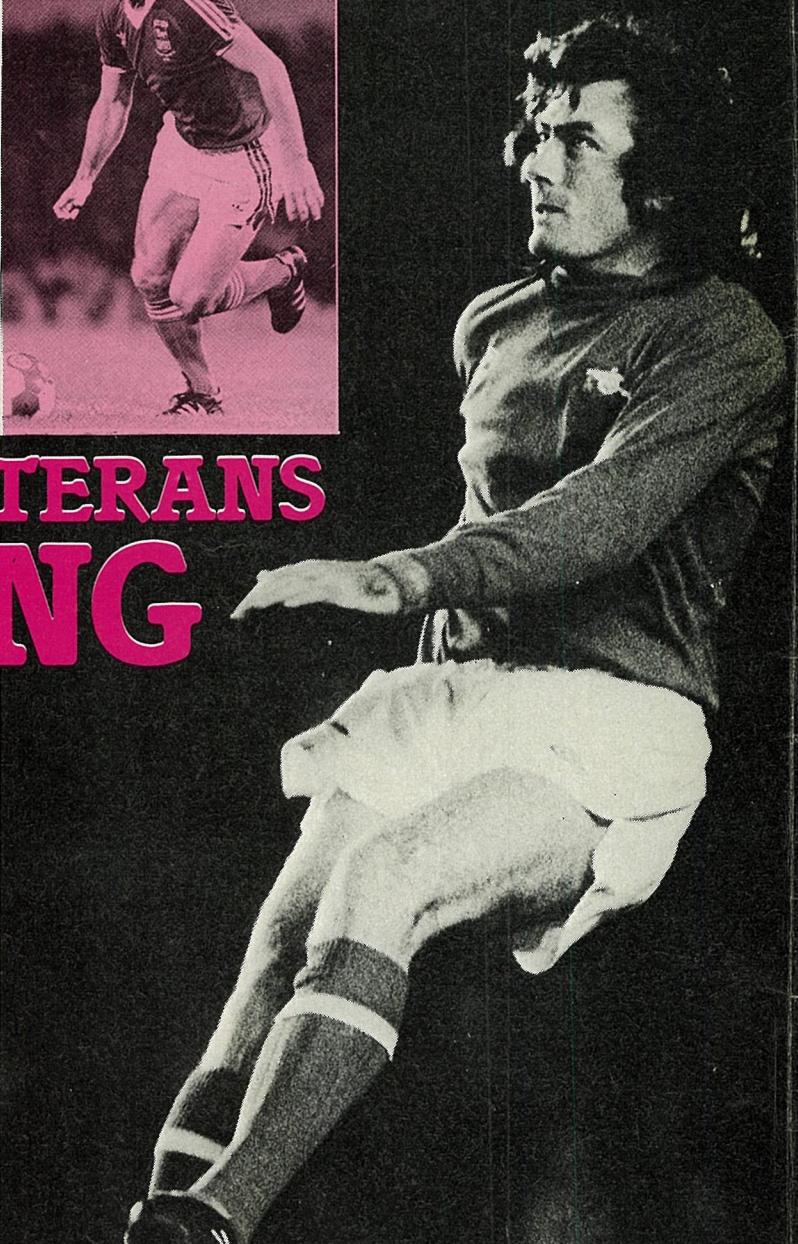
His impressive midfield displays have helped to overcome the loss of Liam Brady and made the £75,000 Arsenal boss Terry Neill paid for him look like jumble sale finance.

Showing all the skill, energetic commitment, consistency, and model behaviour that have been the Hollins hall-mark throughout his splendid career, John claims that, at 34, his enthusiasm for the game is still as keen as it was when he was a 17-year-old.

"I feel that I'm good for years in this game yet," says this most popular of footballers. "I'm just as enthusiastic as I was when I came into the game as a kid."



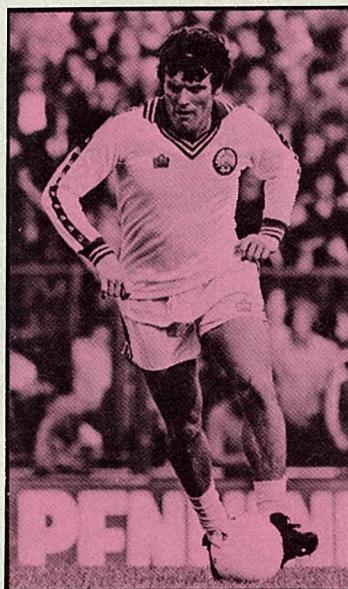
Mick Mills (left) and Pat Jennings (below) have not lost the admiration of the international managers despite passing their 30th birthdays.



"Arsenal are one of the best-organised clubs in the country, and we're playing with so much skill, confidence, and team-spirit, that I'm sure we could win something by the season's end."

Hollins, who skippered the Highbury side against Leeds United recently, and celebrated the occasion by grabbing one of the goals in the Londoners' 5-0 victory at Elland Road, is proving a superb Arsenal investment both as a player and an inspiring reminder that the First Division is heavily reliant on the wily "old 'uns" who are successfully skitting the theory that soccer at the top is a young man's game.

Leeds United are also well aware



Eddie Gray (left) and John Wile (above) have both defied the years to maintain a high level of consistency in the First Division.

of the influence the over-30's can exert on the youngsters.

Silk-smooth, elegant Eddie Gray, old-master Paul Madeley, whose brilliant adaptability has been a priceless commodity to Leeds, especially during their dominant years, and Trevor Cherry, a skilful, tough-tackling defender who can operate with equal efficiency in the middle of the park, are vital to manager Allan Clarke's bid to reach for the sort of success he enjoyed when Don Revie ruled at Elland Road.

Clarke, whose playing career was studded with goals that epitomised his nerveless, almost arrogant approach to the art of drilling a ball past a goalkeeper, will tackle his legacy of problems with the heartening knowledge that his young players can only profit from the guidance of those indestructible survivors from United's golden past.

Hesitate

We feel pretty certain that Birmingham boss Jim Smith wouldn't hesitate to pick a team of over-30's every week, provided they were all in the Archie Gemmill-Colin Todd-Frank Worthington mould, for this trio of battle-hardened "old sweats" have spurred freshly-promoted Birmingham to a highly encouraging First Division return.

encouraging First Division return. Down in East Anglia, where flourishing Ipswich have long since buried their "soft-touch-country-cousins" image with football of all-round excellence and consistency, manager Bobby Robson doesn't even require the drop of a hat to talk glowingly of the massive contribution his 31-year-old skipper, Mick Mills, has made to a club that now commands the respect and admiration of every team in the First Division.

"Loyalty, courage, leadership, and of course, superb ability. Mick's got the lot," says Robson. And no one in the game more richly deserves the success he has achieved.

As Ipswich Town maintain their



Kenny Hibbitt (left) is a staunch supporter of experience counting for everything, and Stoke's Mike Doyle (above) certainly helps to prove his theory.

high-powered Championship challenge, who would argue against the Portman Road captain winning the prize he desires most of all at the season's climax — the First Division title?

Certainly not Kenny Hibbitt, who would undoubtedly include Mills high on his list of veterans who give the Division its ramrod backbone.

There are others, too, their skill, fitness, and dedication defying the passing years, who are just as invaluable to their clubs.

Names like John Wile, West Bromwich Albion's 32-year-old centre-half and skipper, rejected by Sunderland at 19, and later snapped up by Albion for just £35,000 from Peterborough United three years later, and big Joe Royle, Norwich's £60,000 signing from Bristol City, owing nothing.

The former Everton and Manchester City star, holder of six England caps, is confident that the scoring ability so evident throughout a career confined entirely within the glamorous surroundings of the First Division will make him as big a favourite at Carrow Road as he was at Goodison Park, Maine Road and Ashton Gate.

Trick

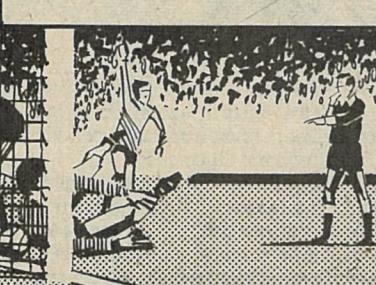
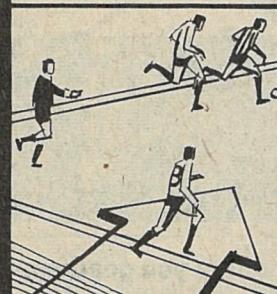
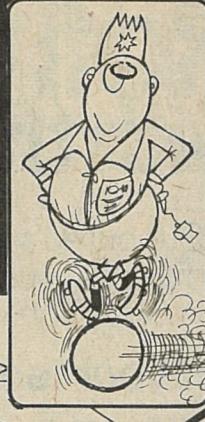
At 31, Joe is convinced that he can still show the youngsters a trick or two, in the air and on the floor.

Add distinguished members of the 30 and over club like Southampton's Mike Channon and Dave Watson, Joe Corrigan, the nimble giant who has defended Manchester City's goal so heroically and loyally through the years, Mike Doyle, the iron core of Stoke City's defence, Peter Shilton of Nottingham Forest, Liverpool's one-man Securicor, Ray Clemence, and his former skipper at Anfield, Emlyn Hughes, now inspiring Wolves with his fervour and defensive strength, and Kenny Hibbitt's salute to his fellow First Division veterans is certainly deserved!

DIVISION Veterans is certainly deserved!

YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS



ANSWERS

1. Awarded a penalty (b). 2. Yes. 3. Caution the player (c). Although in American football the penalties do not wear armbands, in European they are always used. Unfortunately these players then seem to think they have a right to question decisions that seem to them.
4. Let him off. I then sent him off. I understand that he never played for Real Madrid second-leg in Munich and had already cautionned the Spanish Madrid captain during the first-half. Then within 30 seconds to go to the end of the game he continued to question a decision I made. I then sent him off. I understand that he never played for Real Madrid again. 4. Let the referee decide on stand (a). 5. Drop the ball where you stopped play (b).

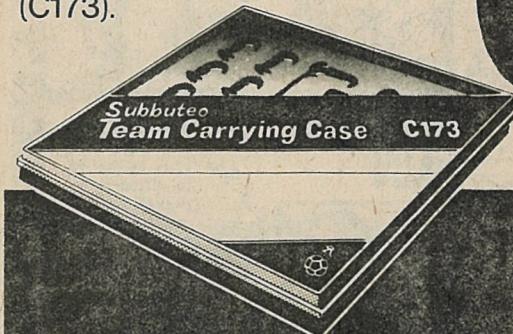
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TAKE A BREAK—IT'S Quiz Time



LEAGUE CUP

TRUE or FALSE?

The Quarter-Finals of the Football League Cup were played recently. Can you answer the following questions about the ties?



1. In the London derby, West Ham knocked Tottenham out of the competition with a 1-0 win at Upton Park. Who scored the only goal of the game?

2. Have West Ham ever reached the last four before?

3. Watford were held 2-2 by Coventry City at Vicarage Road. Did Garry Thompson, Mark Hateley or Steve Hunt (above) score both of the First Division club's goals?

4. Liverpool progressed to the Semi-Finals when they beat Birmingham City 2-1, 3-1 or 4-1 at Anfield.

5. Did Dennis Tueart score Manchester City's winning goal against West Brom at Maine Road in the first or second-half?

ANSWERS:

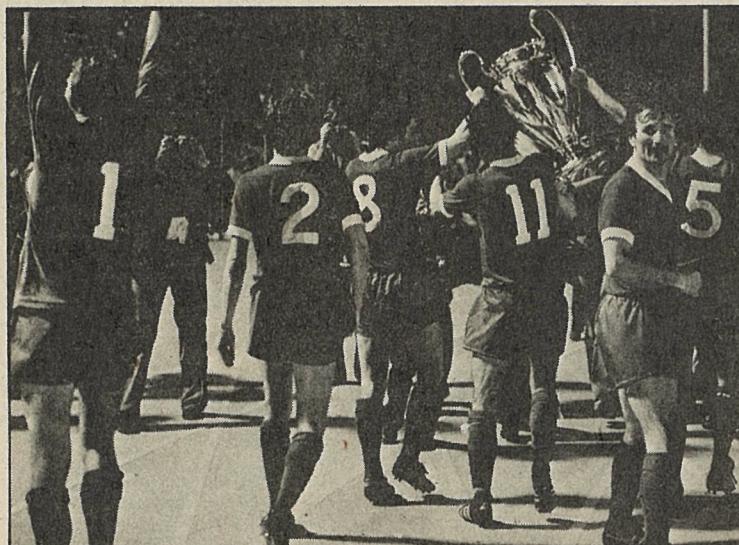
TRUE OR FALSE 1. True. 2. False — he scored their second. 3. False — he began in non-league with Hayes. 4. True. 5. False — he is their present captain. 6. David Cross. 7. They were runners-up in 1966. 8. Thompson. 9. 3-1. 10. First-half.

Y	A	L	P	M	T	R	O	F	E	S	N
C	T	D	L	E	D	D	I	K	T	L	O
B	A	L	D	B	J	D	N	R	A	S	T
A	D	B	U	O	E	I	N	T	O	K	U
V	A	W	B	N	T	O	C	D	I	S	L
M	E	F	N	H	L	H	T	N	E	P	R
S	C	N	O	L	F	N	G	M	T	B	D
A	H	M	S	O	O	P	E	I	H	A	M
N	A	T	R	S	L	N	O	F	R	S	H
S	P	D	B	R	O	D	E	H	M	W	N
L	T	O	N	E	P	R	M	O	F	L	S
C	I	D	O	I	O	W	I	L	M	S	I
I	D	O	I	O	W	I	L	M	S	I	D
B	O	I	D	O	W	I	L	M	S	I	O
A	I	D	O	W	I	L	M	S	I	O	A

TRACE-A-TEAM

The names of 11 past and present Everton players are spelt out in this frame in straight lines, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. See how many you can spot.

GOALKEEPERS



JUMBLED DEFENDERS

Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the names of some of the top defenders in England and Scotland and their clubs.

1. VDDIAAERNY (EENDDUUDTNEI).
2. LLWIENYUGO (ELAANSR).
3. LLBY IGRTWHI (VEEORNT).
4. IIIWELLRIEM (EEERANDB).
5. SSURLELMONAS (WIHIPCS).
6. LLAANVNESA (TSNOALVIA).
7. NNYDAGMNCAIR (TCCIEL).
8. LHPIPMNOHOST (OOIRLPVEL).
9. MTORHFYTOS (GASERRN).
10. RRYLAYDLOL (TTANMONH-GIRFSTOE).

1. Who kept goal for Ipswich when they beat Arsenal 1-0 to win the 1978 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley?

2. What is wrong with this statement? Wrexham goalkeeper Dai Davies is a full Northern Ireland international.

3. Was Jim Platt or Jim Stewart in goal for Middlesbrough when they romped to the Second Division Championship in 1973-74?

4. Steve Ogrizovic is understudy to which First Division goalkeeper?

5. Queens Park Rangers' number one Chris Woods (above) played for Nottingham Forest in the 1977-78, 1978-79 or 1979-80 League Cup Final against Liverpool and helped them to win the trophy in a replay?

ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) His. (3) Watford. (6) Sit. (7) Spin. (8) Knee. (10) Wet. (12) Tip. (13) Lob. (15) Peter Barnes. (21) Peep. (23) Trot. (25) Ward. (26) Golac. (27) Avon. (28) Pair. (29) Play. (30) Terry Yorath. (36) Key. (37) Any. (38) Sad. (40) Eves. (41) Wind. (42) Dai. (44) Swindon. (45) Sea.

DOWN:— (1) Hats. (2) Shot. (3) Wright. (4) Five. (5) Duncan. (7) Sepp. (9) Eels. (10) War. (11) Tea. (12) Trewick. (14) Burnley. (16) Eddie. (17) Edgar. (18) Billy. (19) Recur. (20) Exact. (21) Pop. (22) Par. (23) Top. (24) Try. (30) Type. (31) Rovers. (32) Yes. (33) Old (Trafford). (34) Albion. (35) Hand. (39) Alan. (42) Dips. (43) Idea.

6 Admiral new ENGLAND TRACK-SUITS TO BE WON

ENGLAND stars Trevor Brooking and Glenn Hoddle are seen wearing the new England track-suit, manufactured by Admiral U.K.

Answer the three questions below. Complete the coupon stating size required (S/Boys, Boys, Youths, S/Men's, Men) and paste it on a postcard (or the back of a sealed envelope) and post to SHOOT/ADMIRAL COMPETITION, 55 Ewer Street, London SE99 6YP, to arrive no later than Friday, January 5th, 1981.

1. Glenn Hoddle began his full international career for England in great style in November, 1979 with a debut goal against Belgium, Bulgaria or Brazil at Wembley?



2. Trevor Brooking's recent appearance against Switzerland in a World Cup-tie in November, 1980 was his 31st, 41st or 51st full cap?

3. Both Trevor and Glenn hope to be in action when England play their next home match at Wembley on March 25th, 1981. Will it be against Spain in a friendly or Rumania in the World Cup?

Prizes will be awarded for the six correct entries judged to be the neatest with age taken into account. The competition is open to readers in the U.K. and Eire, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., the printers of SHOOT and Admiral U.K. The Editor's decision is final. The winners will be notified and the result published later in SHOOT.

● If you are also entering the competition on page 6 both entries may be sent in the same envelope to save postage.

SHOOT/ADMIRAL COMPETITION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____

MY ANSWERS ARE

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

SIZE REQUIRED

JOHN LYALL (Manager, West Ham)

My New Year's resolution is quite simply to get West Ham into the First Division, and at the same time provide lots of entertainment and goals for the fans.

JOHN WARK (Ipswich Town)

I'm determined to find a house. We've been looking for months, and we're having to stay with my mother-in-law over Christmas and New Year. I'm also giving up taking my wife shopping!

JOE JORDAN

(Man. United)

I want to see the crazy transfer system stopped. The prices paid for players should be more realistic and based on genuine skill.

OSVALDO ARDILES (Tottenham)

I intend continuing to thank God for all he has done to help me since I was born and throughout my career, playing the best game in the world.

Some of the top names in football reveal their...

NEW

JOHN RICHARDS (Wolves)

I've always broken resolutions in the past! But I'll try to keep one in 1981 because my wife, Pam, suggested it. I intend being more tolerant on match days towards her and the children. I am inclined to get a bit short-tempered with them — I don't mean to be, it's just that I'm wound up about the game that's only a few hours away.

RAY CLEMENCE (Liverpool)

I want Liverpool to be as successful as we have been over past years. What more could I ask for? But I would dearly like to see England perform as well as we did against the World Champions, Argentina, last May. That was magnificent. If England can entertain the crowd as well as we did on that night, the fans will get right behind us again.

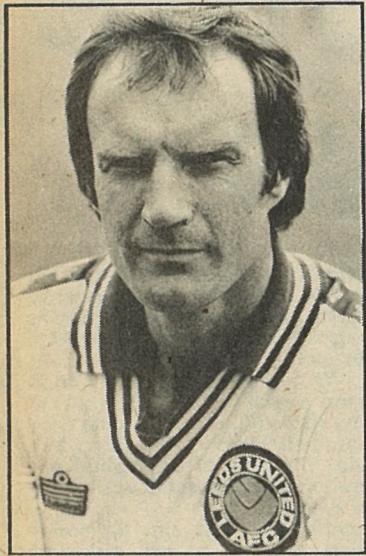
JIM CANNON (Crystal Palace)

I only wish I could say my resolution was to see Palace win the First Division Championship. Unfortunately, it has to be to see us stay in Division One. I'd like the beginning of 1981 to treat us a little better than the start of this season. On a personal note, I would like to get back into the Scotland squad and play for my country.



PAUL MADELEY

(Leeds United)



My resolution is to come up with something to solve the hooligan problem. Some measures must be taken towards getting crowds back.

JIMMY HILL

(BBC TV presenter
and Chairman
of Coventry City)

I don't intend drinking too much or staying up too late in the New Year. But then I never do keep my resolutions! For the game, I would like everybody involved to think twice before saying anything that might damage it. I know what sells papers, but we need a rest from controversial comments.

MIKE ENGLAND

(Manager of Wales)

1981 will be the most important year in the history of Welsh international soccer, because we now have a very realistic chance of qualifying for the World Cup Finals in Spain in 1982. Hopefully, come next November, when we play our last game, in Russia, we will have made it. That is something I want for the people of Wales, and I am very resolute in my intentions to get us there.



Crystal Palace skipper Jim Cannon (left) gets to grips with Manchester United's Garry Birtles and Joe Jordan (right).

YEAR RESOLUTIONS

GORDON COWANS

(Aston Villa)

Obviously, I would like to help Aston Villa win the League, although I suppose that is more of a hope. I need to start scoring! A lot of people vow to give up things. I don't smoke and I don't need to give up any food, because I never put any weight on. I eat everything that's put in front of me.



GEOFF HURST

(Chelsea Manager)

I've never been a man for New Year resolutions. But as long as I'm around next year I'll be happy! Seriously, though, I want to see Chelsea stay in the top three of the Second Division. If that's our position in the final table in May, my resolution will be fulfilled.

Leeds United's Alex Sabella is left stranded as Aston Villa's elegant midfield player Gordon Cowans takes a short cut to goal.

GARRY BIRTLES

(Man. United)

I feel I have two things to justify. First, the enormous fee which Manchester United had to pay Nottingham Forest for me. Secondly, to become a regular England player. In the two games I have started for England I was not feeling 100 per cent. Against Italy I was shattered after a hard season with Forest, and in Rumania I played without having had any real training for quite a time.

JOHN GREIG

(Manager, Rangers)

I want to see the rebuilding programme at Ibrox completed in 1981. It should be finished by October or November, when we will have one of the best grounds in the country — an all-seater stadium except for 9,000 standing places. The second part of my resolution is to see the rebuilding of the team completed to match the ground, although I think this might take a little longer than just a year.

TONY HIGGINS

(Partick Thistle)

(Dundee United).

My New Year resolution is simple: I want success with Thistle and I want to stay clear of any more injuries.

BENNY ROONEY

(Morton)



My main aim must be to win a trophy with Morton this year or in '82. Make no mistake about it, the potential is here at Cappielow. It's time we got something for all our efforts.

I could have joined Partick Thistle this season when they made me a very tempting offer, but I decided to stay with Morton.

The people who said I was lacking ambition by staying will have to think again if we do win something and I know we can. (Leicester City) and Ian Gibson

Bertschin's battle against his own fans

Keith Bertschin has to take on his own fans as well as old team-mates, when Birmingham tackle Ipswich at St. Andrews this Saturday (Dec. 20).

Bertschin, who started his professional career at Portman Road, is still friendly with several of Bobby Robson's team.

He admits: "I have happy memories from my time there and it's very difficult to play against people you are so friendly with."

But Bertschin has to battle against his former colleagues, as well as live with the odd reaction of a section of the St. Andrews crowd.

"The crowd have been on my back this season and I don't think it's justified. They see me spending a fair amount of time outside opponents' areas and they criticise me for that.

"I should score more goals but while we are scoring as a side, I don't mind who puts the ball in the net.

"People should remember I've made goals for my team-mates, so I don't think it's fair to criticise me just because I do that, and don't score so many myself.

"But I don't really care about the criticism from the fans because the people I have got to please, my manager and team-mates, don't seem too worried about how I've been playing.

"The other members of the side

and the boss are the only ones who really matter."

Ipswich will arrive at St. Andrews this weekend, fully aware of the problems they face in trying to extract both points from the hard working Midlanders. Birmingham knocked Bobby Robson's side out of the League Cup in October, with a 2-1 win at St. Andrews.

Bertschin says: "They lost but still showed us why they'd done so well in the early part of the season. They knocked the ball around superbly in a 20 minute spell, and if they'd scored at that time, I think we'd have been in trouble. As it was, we survived and grabbed the winner through Alan Ainscow."

Bertschin believes City wanted to win that League Cup-tie more than Ipswich. "We harried and hustled them more than they did us. We wanted to know more than they did."

Bertschin would have been an Ipswich player today, if he had felt able to wait longer for a chance at Portman Road.

"But I was told I would get first team football straightaway at Birmingham, whereas I might have to wait some time at Ipswich.

"There was no dispute or bitterness — I left to play regular first team football. I have no regrets about the move because I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with Birmingham."

The striker, born in Enfield on the outskirts of London, now regards the Midlands as his natural home. "I'd always come back here, when my playing days were over because I like the area and people so much. It's a great place to live."

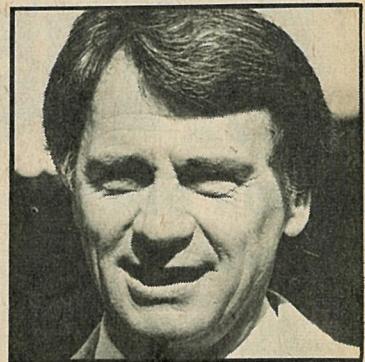
The Ipswich old boy hopes for more glory against his old club, when the two sides meet this weekend.

"What can be done once can be repeated," he says. "That win

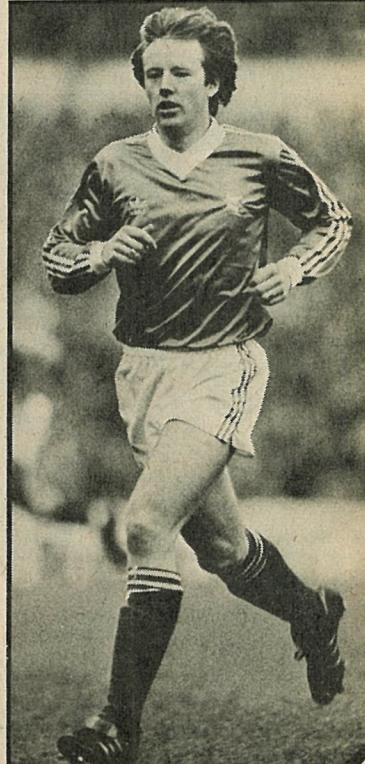
helped us because we found our League form improved afterwards. I think we will do well again, as long as we have sufficient belief in our own ability.

"We're only a little way from being a really good side and winning something. But we must have more belief in our own ability as a side. The sort of self confidence Ipswich possess would work wonders for us.

"And we must aim for something similar in our side. As regards this match, we must work hard against them, close them down and deny them the time and space in which to play. We must match them for work-rate and win the battle of commitment. If we do that, I'm sure we can repeat our League Cup success."



Ipswich boss Bobby Robson.

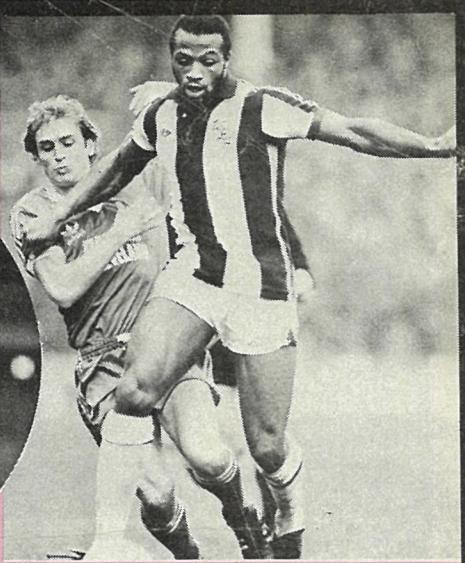


LEFT . . . Keith Bertschin beats Nottingham Forest's Kenny Burns.

RIGHT . . . Alan Ainscow scored the winner against Ipswich in the League Cup game.



Alan Devonshire (left), Cyrille Regis (right) and Garry Birtles (below) have all gained England honours after starting in non-League football.



NON-LEAGUE soccer is considered by many to be an outlet for players who are just not good enough to make the grade. But the success of an ever-growing band of late entries to League football suggests that non-League discoveries can adjust to the high level of skill and fitness expected. Indeed there are those with England caps to prove it.

Take Alan Devonshire. As a teenager he was promised a professional contract with Crystal Palace, but was discarded. For three months, he did not kick a ball. Disillusioned with the game, he decided to leave it alone.

Then his father Les, a former Palace professional, persuaded him to resurrect his career and he joined Southall in the Isthmian League.

But money had to come from somewhere, so Alan found work — as a fork-lift truck driver with Hoover's at Perivale, Middlesex.

Football for him was just a pastime. In front of little more than 200 fans he practised his skills, unaware that Ron Greenwood, then manager of West Ham, had sent scouts to watch his progress. In September, 1976, £5,000 was enough to buy his talents.

Last May, Devonshire collected an F.A. Cup winner's medal, then went to Wembley again for his senior England debut against Northern Ireland to complete a true 'Roy of the Rovers' story.

Cyrille Regis was a striker with Hayes, another West London Isthmian League side. In fact he played against Devonshire in that League.

THE BIG TIME NOW for these former non-League stars

In season 1976-77 he scored 24 goals and was tagged by several League scouts. In similar fashion to Devonshire, he was picked up by a League club, in his case West Bromwich Albion.

He is now one of the strongest and most prolific goalscorers in the First Division.

But as he explains, success in League soccer did not completely surprise him. Says Regis: "I played just one season for Hayes, and there was often talk of scouts watching me.

"That season helped my game, and playing only part-time benefited me in other ways. For while I was with Hayes I took an apprentice electrician's course and gained both a certificate and a skill.

"This will always be an insurance for the future. Working on a building site has also shown me how lucky I am now to be getting good money for playing football.

"I used to get up at 6 o'clock and get home 12 hours later. That's no fun."

Now for another 'striking' discovery. For three months Brian Clough kept his eye on a youngster playing for Long Eaton United in the Midland Counties League.

It was there that Garry Birtles was spotted and signed by Clough for Nottingham Forest for £2,000. Two European Cup winners' medals with Forest, then a £1.4 million transfer to Manchester United followed — a rags to riches tale if ever there was one.

Birtles explains his emergence: "When I was 15 I spent a month with Aston Villa as an associate schoolboy. I gave up taking exams for the chance to make it with Villa.

"But they decided they didn't want me, and I had neither a job nor any prospects. I joined a local side, Clifton, and then moved to

Long Eaton. Meanwhile I worked as a floor-tile layer.

"I was staggered when Forest signed me. Everything just blossomed from there. I sometimes have to pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming."

Birtles is one of a long list of stars discovered in non-League football. It includes other internationals in Paul Mariner, who began with Chorley (Lancashire) on his way to Plymouth Argyle, Ipswich and England, and Peter Ward, whose career with Brighton, England and now Nottingham Forest began with Burton Albion.

Late

Newcastle have four players who started League soccer late in life, with Steve Carney and Peter Cartwright (with North Shields and Blyth Spartans respectively) joining ex-miner Alan Shoulder.

Shoulder cost £10,000 from Blyth in December, 1978, finished his first season with 11 League goals in 24 games, and was Newcastle's top scorer last season.

Another striker, Chris Waddle, made his debut for Newcastle against Shrewsbury this season after graduating from Northern League Tow Law.

Managers, take a hint. Before brandishing the cheque book, why not take a look in the non-League area of the game?

For that's where Regis, Devonshire, Birtles, Mariner and Ward were found ... and that's where other golden nuggets are waiting to be unearthed.

Don't miss
SHOOT'S
January 10th issue

In Colour: first part
of an F.A. CUP
WALLCHART

Charlton team group

Focus on John Gidman (Everton).

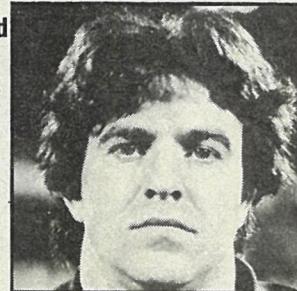
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John Robertson
(right)
a pin-up in colour.



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FULL NAME: Colin McAdam
BIRTHPLACE: Glasgow
BIRTHDATE: August 28, 1952
HEIGHT: 6ft 2ins
WEIGHT: 13 stone
PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Dumbarton, Motherwell,
Partick Thistle
MARRIED: Yes
CHILDREN: One
CAR: Ford Capri
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER:
None
MOST PROMISING
TEAM-MATE: John MacDonald
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM:
Partick and Dumbarton
FOOTBALL HERO OF
CHILDHOOD: John Greig
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT:
Badminton, golf
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT:
Alex McLeish (Aberdeen) and
Jim McLaughlin (Morton)
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:
Beating Celtic 3-0 at Ibrox in
November
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:
Losing to Rangers in the
Semi-Final of the Scottish Cup
when with Motherwell
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS:
Aberdeen and Partick
FAVOURITE DRINK: Milk
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES:
Being injured
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY
RESORT: Canada

FAVOURITE T.V. STAR: Dennis
Waterman (*Minder*)
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY
OFF: Playing golf
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Police,
The Beat
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: No
set routine
BEST FRIEND: Alan Rough
(Partick), Gregor Stevens
(Rangers), and my brother
Tom at Celtic
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON
CAREER: Willie McLean
(Motherwell), Bertie Auld
(Partick) and Dave Wilson
(Dumbarton)
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:
None
PERSONAL AMBITION: To win
trophies with Rangers
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB
WOULD YOU DO? Teacher of
physical education, a job I
already do
WHICH PERSON IN THE
WORLD WOULD YOU MOST
LIKE TO MEET? Clint Eastwood

Colin McAdam



FOCUS ON **COLIN McADAM** Rangers

SHOOT!